

Pakistan to rejoin Commonwealth

LONDON (R) — Pakistan will rejoin the 48-nation Commonwealth by October, ending a 17-year break, Pakistan's ambassador to Britain said Monday. Shabaz Khan, speaking after a meeting between Pakistan's Prime Minister Benazir Bhutto and Commonwealth Secretary General Sir Kenneth Robinson, said Pakistan was expected to rejoin the Commonwealth by October. He said: "Except for the technicalities, we are members." Khan said Bhutto had formally conveyed to Robinson the Commonwealth's unanimous welcome to Pakistan during the meeting, which came towards the end of a week-long visit to London by the Pakistani prime minister. He said Pakistan had to work out the formalities of rejoining, adding: "The ball is in our court." He could not give an exact date when a formal announcement would be made. Pakistan was already receiving papers ahead of the Commonwealth summit meeting in Malaysia, he said, and Bhutto was expected to attend. The Commonwealth secretary said Bhutto had briefed Robinson on the summit agenda and told her she "really is joining a family." Robinson told reporters last week the door was open for Pakistan to rejoin the group.

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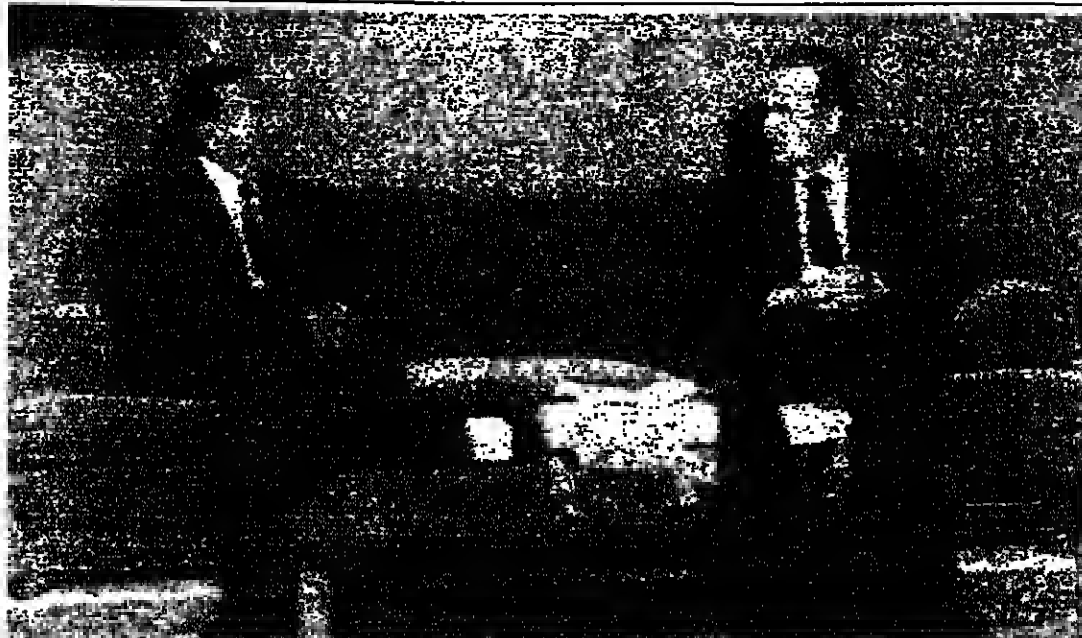
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King reaffirms Jordan's stands

AMMAN (J.T.) — His Majesty King Hussein Monday reaffirmed Jordan's position on international and regional security and peace, with particular emphasis on the Arab-Israeli conflict and the Iran-Iraq war. In an address he made to the British Royal College of Defence Studies, the King out-

lined Jordan's aspirations and principles that guide the Kingdom's positions on various international and regional issues. The King also referred to the formation of the Arab Cooperation Council grouping Jordan, North Yemen, Iraq and Egypt and said the council

would contribute to pan-Arab integration and cooperation. Their Majesties King Hussein and Queen Noor are on a private visit to Britain. During the visit, the King is expected to hold talks with British leaders and undergo a periodical medical check-up.



Syrian President Hafez Al Assad Monday confers with Prime Minister Sharif Zaid Ibn Shaker (Petra Irphoto)

Assad, Sharif Zaid review Mideast, ties

AMMAN (Agencies) — Syrian President Hafez Al Assad and the Jordanian prime minister, Sharif Zaid Ibn Shaker, held talks Monday on Middle East developments and bilateral relations, the Jordanian News Agency Petra, and the Syrian Arab News Agency (SANA) reported. Sharif Zaid conveyed to Assad greetings from His Majesty King Hussein and the Syrian leader asked him to reciprocate the good wishes.

In a separate meeting, Qasem and Sharaa discussed the situation in Lebanon and other regional developments. Also Monday, Sharif Zaid discussed with Zuhbi scopes of cooperation and Jordanian-Syrian joint projects. The two premiers reviewed progress of work in the construction of Al Wihdah Dam and stressed the need for completing the project the nearest possible time. Sharif Zaid and Qasem are in Damascus to attend meetings of the Joint Jordanian-Syrian Higher Committee. Jordan and Syria hold biannual sessions on trade and economic cooperation. At the last meeting in Amman in February they agreed to increase exchanges to \$200 million a year. SANA quoted the two prime

ministers as saying they were "deeply satisfied with the progress achieved for economic integration." The meeting was attended on the Jordanian side by Qasem, Minister for Prime Ministry Affairs Ibrahim Izzeddine, and Minister of Water and Irrigation Mohammad Saleh Kilani while they were attended on the Syrian side by Sharaa, Irrigation Minister Abdul Rahman Al Madani and Minister of Reconstruction Mohammad Marwan Al Faraa. The joint committee meetings concluded Monday evening and issued recommendations and adopted resolutions in various fields of cooperation. Sharif Zaid and the delegation which attended the meeting returned home Monday night.

Aoun extends conditional offer

BEIRUT (Agencies) — Lebanese army chief Major-General Michel Aoun said Monday he would cut his arsenal and accept Arab observers at his ports if Syrian and Israeli troops left Lebanon. "I am ready to accept (the employment of Arab) observers to monitor the entry of arms into Beirut on condition that Israel and Syria withdraw from Lebanon," Aoun told a news conference at his shell-pocked residential palace. "Then I will be willing to reduce the amount of weapons I have," said Aoun, who led a militia since March with Syria's 40,000 troops he has vowed to drive out of Lebanon. Syria has told Arab mediators it demands observers be stationed at Lebanon's Aoun-aided ports and Aoun give up Soviet-made missiles reportedly applied by Iraq. Otherwise it has vowed to continue its sea blockade of the enclave to stop Aoun receiving weapons and fuel. Aoun refused to confirm or deny that Iraq had supplied him with Soviet-made Frog-7 missiles, which with a range of 70 kilometres could hit Damascus if fired from the enclave. "Whether I have them or not, I will not say. The story of the missiles is a ploy," he added. Aoun heads a military cabinet vying for power with a civilian government backed by Syria. One 400 people were killed in battles between Aoun's troops and Syrian and Israeli-backed forces which substantially ended in May 11. Aoun said he told Arab envoy Abdallah Ibrahim he rejected the Syrian request for Arab observers to be stationed at his ports. The foreign ministers of Algeria and Morocco, pursuing their

efforts to mediate an end to Lebanon's crisis, left Algiers for Jeddah Monday. Algeria's Boumedienne Bessaieb and Morocco's Abdul Latif Filali will join Saudi Foreign Minister Prince Saud Al Faisal there before the three go on to Damascus, the official news agency APS said. An Arab summit in May gave the heads of state of Algeria, Morocco and Saudi Arabia a mandate to end the fighting in Lebanon and solve the nine-month-old constitutional crisis. The Algerian news agency APS reported that President Chadli Bendjedid met for two hours Saturday with King Fahd of Saudi Arabia, who made a stopover in Algiers. Algerian radio said the three foreign ministers would make a visit soon to Syria to pursue their efforts, but did not give a date. Ibrahim meanwhile held more talks on Sunday with Syrian-backed officials in Beirut. Ibrahim, who came to Beirut Thursday, has so far failed to consolidate a May 11 ceasefire and persuade Syria to lift its sea blockade. In Damascus the foreign ministers are expected to discuss the lifting of the Syrian sea blockade. On Sunday a hit a Maltese oil tanker which broke their blockade and gunboats turned away another ship which went to help it, security sources said in Beirut. Clashes in south In Hasbaya, South Lebanon, Israeli troops and allied militiamen killed three guerrillas in a three-hour sweep by a joint force backed by strafing helicopter gunships, police said Monday. They said the thrust by 70

Israeli soldiers and militiamen of the South Lebanon Army (SLA) followed an attack by three Palestinian and leftist Lebanese factions on Israel's self-designated "security zone." The automatic fire guerrilla attack at 8 a.m. (0500 GMT) targeted a joint Israeli-SLA patrol on the zone's northern edge, said a police spokesman. Two hours later, 13 armoured personnel carriers rolled out of the buffer zone to counter attack suspected guerrilla hideouts around the villages of Zillayla and Dellaya in the foothills of Mount Hermon, the spokesman said. The SLA banded the bodies of the three guerrillas to the International Red Cross just before the incursion force withdrew into the zone at midday (0900 GMT), without suffering any casualties, the spokesman said. He said Israeli helicopter gunships strafed Zillayla and Dellaya in repeated runs for an hour after the withdrawal. In Beirut, the Fatah-Revolutionary Council faction headed by Palestinian Abu Nidal said two of the guerrillas were killed and a third was slightly wounded in an overnight clash with the SLA east of Sidon. A communiqué from the group said the one-hour clash flared at the village of Saffarin near Jezzine, the largest town in South Lebanon that forms the northern tip of the "security zone." "One of our patrols later managed to retrieve the bodies of our two martyred comrades," the communiqué said. Jezzine is 25 kilometres east of Sidon, provincial capital of South Lebanon which lies some 40 kilometres south of Beirut. Sidon's Ain Al Hilweh and Mich Mieh refugee camps house the bulk of the Palestinian forces in Lebanon.

Labour leadership recommends leaving coalition

Israeli politics in chaos

TEL AVIV (Agencies) — The leadership bureau of the Labour Party recommended Monday that the party quit Israel's governing coalition with the right-wing Likud bloc, a move that could bring down the cabinet and force new elections. Labour leader and Finance Minister Shimon Peres told the bureau that the party's central committee, which has final say on ending the coalition, should meet "as soon as possible" to vote on the recommendation. The bureau's recommendations usually are endorsed by the central committee. The Labour decision followed a meeting of Prime Minister Yitzhak Shamir's Likud bloc last week in which Likud adopted hardline positions on negotiations with the Palestinians.

conclusion that in view of the latest events... which seriously harmed the government's peace initiative, it would be proper to draw conclusions and dismantle the present government in an honourable and responsible manner," Peres said. The bureau and the party's parliament faction approved Peres' proposal by a vote of 45 to two, with six abstentions, and Peres read the text of the final decision on Israeli radio. It said: "The Labour Party bureau and its parliament faction determine that following the decisions of the Likud central committee that harmed the chances of the government's peace initiative, there is no room under these conditions for the continuation of the government. The bureau recommends to convene the party's central committee to discuss this recommendation." Others in the 120-member bureau did not show up to vote. Some of them said they stayed away because they oppose leaving the government. Shamir's top aide Yossi Ahimeir told the AP the prime minister was still "hopeful that the bottom line would not be a (Labour) withdrawal."

"There is no place for dismantling the government. This is not in Israel's interests. This is not in the interests of peace. Such a move only means a delay in the peace process," he said. "From here the weight of responsibility is in Labour's shoulders." Ahimeir added that "the peace initiative as it was approved by the government and the parliament remains firm and abiding. Only those seeking excuses to leave the cabinet are clinging to Shamir's speech last week." Defence Minister Yitzhak Rabin, co-author with Shamir of the election proposal, argued that Labour should set its own terms for implementing the initiative and delay withdrawing from the government. He said afterwards the Labour vote supported his position, leaving at least three weeks for Shamir to clarify his stance. Labour Communications Minister Gad Yacobi said: "If nothing substantial happens by the time we convene the central committee of the Labour Party, we will break up the government." Among the conditions Rabin sought was a halt to new Israeli settlements in the occupied territories.

a commitment to exchange some occupied land for peace and an agreement to include Palestinians from abroad in negotiations on a final settlement. All these terms are anathema to Likud, which last week ruled out any territorial concession, any halt to settlement and any negotiation with non-residents of the occupied territories. Political analysts said despite Monday's Labour decision, it would be hard for the party to leave the government. If Shamir forced fresh elections, as provided in the written coalition agreement, Labour would face a heavy defeat at the polls, given the increasingly right-wing mood in the country. Political sources said Shamir was keen to keep Labour in the coalition rather than head a narrow government including far-right parties which could lead Israel further towards international isolation. They said it was mathematically possible that Labour could form a narrow cabinet with religious and leftist parties, sustained by Arab Communist members of parliament. But such a government would be so

far from the national mood as to be politically untenable, they said. Leading Palestinian Mahdi Abdul Hadi, who heads an Arab Jerusalem think-tank, urged Labour to follow through on its decision to leave the government. "If Labour leaves it will help the Palestinian from the point of view that people will see the real face of Israel, those not interested in peace, conciliation. "It is in my interest that the people of the world understand exactly where the Israeli people stand," he said. No date was set for convening Labour's 1,200-member central committee, leaving time for negotiation within the party and with Shamir. Shamir has sought to minimise the Likud decision, saying it did not alter the government's initiative. He warned Labour that if it pulled out of the government it would be held responsible for breaking up "national unity" at a time when Israel faced severe "security" threats, international isolation and economic problems. Israeli newspapers reported that the Bush administration had appealed to Labour leaders not to withdraw.

Two shot dead in West Bank

OCCUPIED JERUSALEM (R) — Israeli troops gunned down a 17-year-old Palestinian in Ramallah in the occupied West Bank Monday. An army spokesman claimed the youth refused an order to stop but Arab witnesses contested this, saying he was shot without provocation while walking. The witnesses told Reuters the teenager, Yasser Mohammad Abu Kteish of Betunia village, was shot four times in the head and back. He was alive when taken into custody but denied medical treatment, they said. Abu Kteish was one of two teenagers to die of army gunshot wounds Monday, bringing the death toll of the 19-month-old uprising to 547 Palestinians. The army spokesman said the youth was wanted for taking part in anti-Israel attacks and membership in the Popular Front for the Liberation of Palestine (PFLP). Mahyoub Musa Shuman, 15, was shot in the head during raids overnight at Abu Falah village

near Ramallah. He died early Monday at Hadassah hospital, military officials said. Troops shot and wounded seven other Palestinians during overnight raids on three villages around Ramallah, Abu Falah, Turmus Ayya and Al Mughayir, Palestinians said. In the Gaza Strip, Palestinians said Jewish settlers stoned Arabs on their way to work in Israel and at the entrance to Nuseirat refugee camp. A resident of Nuseirat grabbed the steering wheel of an Israeli bus last Thursday, sending it over a cliff and killing 14 passengers. Angry Israelis have attacked Arabs daily since the incident. Israelis also stoned the car of leftist parliamentarian Dedi Zucker, of the Citizens Rights Movement (CRM). They stoned his house Saturday. An army spokeswoman said soldiers shot dead an "armed guerrilla" in the Hebron area at the weekend, but would give no details. Two Palestinians were re-

ported shot and killed by Israeli troops Sunday during a general strike marking 19 months of the uprising. Police on horseback charged stone-throwing Israelis, mostly orthodox Jews in black hats and long coats, when rioting erupted after the funeral in Jerusalem of Moshe Shapir, 74, one of the 14 people killed in the bus incident. The crowd was chanting "death to Arabs." In the West Bank village of Ramin, near Nablus, 20-year-old Ayman Hamad was shot in the chest and killed when soldiers opened fire on Palestinians building a roadblock to stop troops from entering the village. In Madana, also near Nablus, Fayez Yousef, 21, was killed by a gunshot to the chest when troops opened fire at a group of youths who stoned a army patrol. Seven other Palestinians, including a 10-year-old boy, were shot and wounded Sunday in clashes with the army in the West Bank and Gaza Strip. An Israeli parliamentarian who

supports talks with the Palestine Liberation Organisation (PLO) demanded Monday the PLO condemn the bus attack. Ran Cohen, of the CRM party, said he had sent his demand in a telegram to the PLO in Tunis. "I believe two positive conditions have allowed dialogue with Israel, (the PLO's) recognising Israel and renouncing terrorism. I see the lack of condemning such a horrible act... as a sort of retreat," he said. The PLO described the crash as a "natural and human reaction" to Israeli occupation of the West Bank and Gaza Strip. The Israeli legislator said the lack of a PLO condemnation would give ammunition to those Israelis who oppose opening a dialogue with the group. "As we (CRM) stand at the head of a group that tries to bring negotiations, I think we should have some influence over them," he said. Cohen often talks to Palestinians in Israel and abroad and supports talks with the PLO.

Bashir rejects preconditions from rebels

KUWAIT (AP) — Sudan's new military leader says that Junta members from the south can help in peace negotiations with rebels fighting for greater autonomy in three southern provinces, the Kuwait daily Al Anbaa reported Monday. Lieutenant-General Omar Hassan Al Bashir also said in an interview that he would promote a plan for uniting Sudan with neighbouring Egypt and Libya after tackling the country's domestic problems. He said a delegation from the 15-member "Salvation Revolution Council," which seized power in a bloodless coup June 30, would meet soon with representatives of the rebels and Ethiopian government, which backs them. "Council members from southern Sudan enjoy a special standing in their own provinces and will do their utmost to bring about peace," Bashir told Al Anbaa. "We in the armed forces

understand the viewpoint of the people's movement (the rebels)," he added. But he said that rebel leader John Garang would not be allowed to impose conditions for the talks. "I'd like to make it clear that we will not accept conditions by the movement and we will not impose conditions. We have just to sit at the negotiating table," he said. Bashir said rebel officials had contacted junta members in Khartoum, the Sudanese capital, in the past two days enquiring about peace initiatives announced immediately after the take-over. They include a one-month armistice and an amnesty for all who fought the government for political reasons since 1983, when the insurrection in the south broke out. An estimated 50,000 rebels are fighting in the Sudan People's Liberation Army (SPLA) led by

Garang, a former army colonel. "The revolution has its own visualisation of how to bring peace to the south. We are optimistic," Bashir said. He said the trial of ousted Prime Minister Sadeq Al Mahdi would start this week before a military tribunal. Mahdi, a 53-year-old civilian, had ruled Sudan since his election in May 1986. Bashir rejected a party system for Sudan, saying the council would consider ways of "involving the public in governing the country to the exclusion of any parties or sectarianism." He said the junta's foreign policy would be based on having special relationships with Arab and neighbouring African countries "and avoiding enmity with any country." "We in Sudan consider Arab unity as a strategic objective and will do our utmost to achieve it," he said. He described as "pioneering steps" the creation of the three

Arab groupings within the 22-member Arab League — the Gulf Cooperation Council, the Arab Cooperation Council and the Arab Maghreb Union. "We have suggested in principle to set up a union comprising Sudan, Egypt and Libya. After putting the Sudanese house in order, we will try to turn this project into reality," he said. Bashir also said that application of Islamic law in Sudan, a controversial issue, would be decided through a referendum. Journalists freed Bashir has released two prominent editors detained by Mahdi's government, a source at the journalists' union said Monday. The source, speaking on condition of anonymity, identified the freed men as Sidahmad Al Khalifa, editor and publisher of the tri-weekly Al Watan, and Mohammad Medani Tewfik, editor and publisher of weekly Al Rai.

Peking announces mass party expulsions

PEKING (Agencies) — The ruling Communist Party, seeking to improve an image tarnished by its harsh suppression of dissent, said Monday that it had expelled hundreds of its members for corruption. The People's Daily, official mouthpiece of the 47.7-million-member party, said 452 officials in the southern province of Guizhou had been expelled for corruption during the first half of 1989. On Sunday it was reported that one local party leader in Guizhou was given the death sentence for selling counterfeit brand liquor. The official press recently has highlighted crackdowns on corruption as part of a propaganda drive to improve its image and secure popular loyalty following

the suppression of the student-led pro-democracy movement last month. The students won wide support among the populace by demanding action to end rampant corruption among Chinese officials. Protesters frequently referred to how leaders use their influence to obtain good jobs and trips abroad for their children. Among those criticised was senior leader Deng Xiaoping, whose son Deng Pufang formerly had connections with a company singled out for involvement in speculation and profiteering. The People's Daily said Monday that instances of party members involved in bribe-taking and graft in Guizhou were up 25 per cent from the first half of 1988, and that top priority should be

given to investigating the behaviour of party members. It also reported that the vice chairman of the commodity prices committee in the western province of Gansu, Wang Yuntian, was expelled from the party for making 630,000 yuan (\$170,000) by profiteering in sugar. Several thousand people — including dissident intellectuals and student activists and those accused of violence during demonstrations in June — are believed held, but Peking is saying little about their fate. Bedraggled "counter-revolutionary hooligans," beads bowed in submission, were repeatedly paraded on national television after their arrests for alleged acts of violence during the turmoil.

Hundreds of similar roundups, and several executions, were announced. A massive police hunt was being launched for 21 student leaders of the democracy movement, of whom six are known to have been caught. Wang Dan, the most prominent, was also feared captured after a meeting with Taiwan journalist Huang Debei, who has been under arrest for the last week, but authorities have made no announcement on Wang's fate. There is no sign that Peking has softened its policy, only that it is no longer publicising details. The People's Daily said "not one iota of mercy should be shown" to the "plotters of chaos."

Solidarity ready to form government

WARSAW (R) — Poland's opposition Solidarity movement is ready to form a government if the Soviet Union agrees and if Western countries offer significant economic aid to it, a senior Solidarity adviser said Monday. He told Reuters that Adam Michnik, a leading Solidarity strategist, was travelling to Moscow soon to see if the Kremlin would concentrate a future Polish government headed by the once-banned trade union. The adviser, who spoke on condition of anonymity, said Solidarity also needed a guarantee of major Western aid because that would ensure the basis for an economic reform programme and for widespread public support. "The creation of a Solidarity government is possible under these two conditions," he said. Michnik wrote an article in the Solidarity newspaper Gazeta Wyborcza a week ago which proposed that the movement should support a communist for the powerful new post of president in return for the right to name a prime minister who would form a government. If Solidarity formed a government, it would be the first non-communist administration in Eastern Europe since the 1940s and would represent a startling transformation in Soviet attitudes to the region. Solidarity's crushing defeat of the Communist Party in elections last month has given them a major power-holding role in Poland. Some Solidarity leaders have been reluctant to form a government on the grounds that they would be forced to accept responsibility for implementing an economic austerity plan that could undermine the movement's popularity. Communist Party leader Wojciech Jaruzelski had been considered the likeliest choice for president until he suddenly withdrew on June 30, saying he was publicly identified with the imposition of martial law in 1981 rather than with reforms. Jaruzelski proposed Interior Minister Czeslaw Kiszczak for the presidency, but party officials — shattered by the electoral defeat which Solidarity inflicted on them — are urging Jaruzelski to reconsider. U.S. President George Bush, who is visiting Warsaw (see page 8), pledged economic aid for Poland in a speech Monday. Ruby Boutique For DISTINGUISHED ladies See P. (6)

Sudan coup leaders need more than good intentions

By Dalia Baligh
Associated Press

KHARTOUM — Sudan's new military rulers are finding that running a country requires more than good intentions.

But Sudanese and Western analysts agree that about all they brought to the job with their June 30 coup that ended prime minister Sadeq Al Mahdi's democratic but near-chaotic government.

"I don't think they really appreciated what taking power means," one diplomat said. "It's more complex than they thought. They're trying to address all of Sudan's problems, but they know about being soldiers, not running a government."

When Lieutenant-General Omar Hassan Ahmad Al Bashir took over, he proclaimed two priorities for his 15-officer junta: ending a southern rebellion and reviving a gasping economy.

The promise of drastic measures against the black market and for peace enticed the public to swallow more easily Bashir's early draconian decrees wiping away the trappings of democracy. Sudan's 36 political parties were disbanded, newspapers banned and a national emergency declared.

But subsequent action gave way to adverse reaction and revision, reminiscent of the indecisiveness of Mahdi's three-year administration.

A committee in charge of press and information was formed, then disbanded, then reformed. Bank accounts were frozen, then freed. Bread prices were lowered from levels that helped cause food riots in recent months, then promptly zoomed back up as bread disappeared from market shelves. The same happened with meat, vegetables and fruits.

As for the war, the new leaders said they were sending a delegation to meet with southern rebels based in Addis Ababa. Rebel spokesmen said they

knew nothing of it, so the delegation's mission was revised into meeting with the Ethiopian government. Then the delegation's departure was postponed until Tuesday.

By that time, many Sudanese had stopped keeping track.

"They (the new rulers) have very good intentions," said a prominent Sudanese political veteran. "But they are naive and are making mistakes."

He, like diplomats and other Sudanese interviewed, refused to let his name be used because of Bashir's decree setting a 10-year jail sentence for those who speak against his administration.

All complain that the new leaders' priorities are correct but that they expect simple solutions to complex problems. Many say the junta is vague on how it intends to attack the problems because it has no plan.

"Our biggest threat is the southern question. If we can solve the problem of the south, we can solve the economic problem," Bashir said in an interview with the Voice of America and the British Broadcasting Corporation.

"Our main problem is corruption. If we fight corruption and get rid of it, we will be able to help ourselves," he said. "We will build projects to have our own food sufficiency and to increase the output of schemes and projects. This plan will be with the help of the international community."

Scepticism
Such talk is meaningless, said a Sudanese economic expert. "The economy is in shambles," he said. "We have good land, but a whole new infrastructure of roads, truck fleets, trains and gasoline... to run them is needed to make use of their full potential."

Ending the war might also enable us to get to the oil and the minerals in the south."

But early hopes for a quick end to the six-year-old war have waned.

Bashir took the positive steps of announcing a month-long ceasefire and offering amnesty to the rebels.

At the same time, he scrapped previous peace efforts, including a much-supported agreement last winter between the Sudan People's Liberation Army (SPLA) and the centrist Democratic Unionist Party.

Also, he has talked about Arab unity, particularly with a Sudan-Egypt-Libya axis, sure to be anathema to the southern rebels.

"With his declaration of martial law, the scrapping of the peace agreements and the talk about unity, they have started on the wrong track with the SPLA," a former Sudanese politician said.

Similarly, many merchants complain they cannot break even by selling commodities at artificially lowered prices. A tour of the main market at Omdurman, across the White Nile from Khartoum, found many of the stalls empty.

"At first, the merchants were afraid and sold at the new low prices," said a woman who gave her name as Nadia. "But now they say that the prices make them lose money and are not fair, and they won't sell."

She said she could not find tomatoes, which were selling between the coup at 20 Sudanese pounds a kilogramme (75 cents a pound) but under junta edict at five pounds (19 cents a pound).

Bakeries stopped producing bread when the junta reduced a loaf's price from 50 pounds (\$4.13) to 15 pounds (\$1.24). Putting it back at 20-21 pounds (just under \$1.75) brought only a trickle of bread back to the shelves.

But the tough measures have registered some successes.

State-owned television has broadcast seizures of tons of scarce food and other commodities hoarded by merchants. It also showed thousands of cartons of clothes and food donated from abroad for refugees



A Sudanese woman leans on a street sign as she waits for bus in Khartoum over the weekend. A fuel shortage has caused reductions in the public transport sector which serves the seven million inhabitants of Khartoum.

from floods in 1988, which allegedly were found in a former senior government official's warehouse.

The black-market value of the Sudanese pound fell from a pre-coup level of 22 to the dollar to seven Saturday, little more than half the bank rate of 12.1, after the junta threatened to shoot black marketeers.

Sudanese economists say the

moves so far are not enough to help the staggering economy, facing chronic shortages and carrying a \$13-billion foreign debt.

Although Western and Arab countries have offered the new government economic aid, the country remains ineligible for loans from the International Monetary Fund because it is in arrears.

Rebel rockets kill 30, wound 167 in Kabul

KABUL (R) — Mujahedeen guerrillas rained 53 rockets on Kabul Monday, killing 30 people and wounding 167 in the most savage shelling of the Afghan capital for a year, government officials and hospital staff said.

United Nations officials in Kabul said they had urgently requested their Geneva office to airlift medical supplies to Afghanistan.

Jean-Jacques Fresard, head of the International Committee of the Red Cross in Kabul, said hospitals were unable to cope with the number of wounded.

"The situation is really serious," he told Reuters.

The attack began shortly after midnight when a rocket landed on an ammunition depot near the airport, causing explosions and huge flames which lit up the sky for about two hours.

Foreign relief workers living in central Kabul said they had been sleeping under stairways for the past few nights for fear of rockets.

The Supreme Defence Council held emergency meetings on Sunday and Monday to discuss the attacks on Kabul, which has come under increased shelling in the past week from the rebels fighting to overthrow the pro-Soviet Afghan government.

The rocket which ignited the ammunition depot marked the first time in several months the rebels had hit a purely military target in the city. Most missiles land in residential areas, causing

little damage to buildings but killing victims in a hail of fragments.

Afghan officials said they believed the rebels were firing from bases 40 to 50 kilometres away and were pinpointing targets rather than aiming haphazardly as in the past.

He said the rockets had been carefully fired in the last few days, landing on centrally-located and densely-populated areas.

The rockets on Monday hit seven of the capital's 11 administrative districts.

Residents near the weapons depot said rockets fired from hills surrounding Kabul set off a series of explosions in the dump around midnight.

Journalists at the Continental Hotel overlooking the capital watched a huge fire burn for about two hours as repeated blasts sent flames leaping into the air.

Reporters were denied access to the depot, which is in a military zone near the airport.

Soldiers in Macraon said a rocket exploded on a pavement in the northern residential district, killing eight people, most of whom were waiting for a bus.

The blast wounded more than 20 and shattered windows in nearby shops, a branch of the central bank and a library.

Residents said two men were killed in the Shahr Shamsheer central district when another rocket hit the road in front of a mosque.

Nur Alam, a 16-year-old stu-

dent, told reporters he was riding his bicycle by the Kabul River when the rocket landed nearby, killing a tailor in his shop and a man in the street.

Alam said he heard that the blast killed four others.

The government had no immediate information on the number of rockets that hit Kabul or details of damage at the ammunition depot.

Afghan President Najibullah's government has warned that the Western-backed rebels plan a major offensive this month.

The rebels, who receive arms from the United States and Pakistan for their fight to overthrow Kabul's pro-Soviet government, have been firing between five and 10 rockets a day on the capital for the last few weeks.

Vijay Satokar, an Indian correspondent for the Press Trust of India, told reporters he was in the foyer on the first floor in the Central Kabul Hotel Monday morning when a rocket crashed through the ceiling and lodged into a wall a few metres away.

He said no one appeared to have been injured.

The depot explosion did not affect air traffic. MiG-21 fighter jets and Soviet cargo planes were flying in and out of the airport Monday.

A U.N. official said that the explosion destroyed the depot that contained ammunition and arms flown in from the Soviet Union.

Turkey seeks world help

ANKARA (R) — Turkey's President Kenan Evren has written to 40 heads of state seeking help in resolving a dispute with Bulgaria over Sofia's expulsion of its ethnic Turks, the foreign ministry said Monday.

Evren's appeal had gone to Western, Islamic, socialist and non-aligned leaders, a ministry statement said.

More than 130,000 ethnic Turks have poured across the Bulgarian border since mid-May.

Turkey has said it will accept all the estimated two million ethnic Turks if needed, but wants Sofia to negotiate an emigration pact to safeguard their property and human rights.

Bulgaria, which denies it has a Turkish minority, says they are in fact Bulgarians whose forebears were forced into the Islamic faith during centuries of Ottoman Turkish rule.

Hamid Al Gabid, secretary-general of the 46-member Organisation of Islamic Conference (OIC), has called for sanctions against Bulgaria.

Gabid urged the Islamic community and the Islamic World to put "economic, political and moral pressure" on Bulgaria so that it stop "the forced assimilation" of its ethnic Turkish minority.

Gabid, head of the Saudi-based OIC was on his first visit to Turkey since the exodus picked up momentum in the first week of May.

His statement coincided with Turkey's own drive for an emergency session of the OIC on the issue, diplomatic sources said.

These sources, who spoke on condition they not be named, said Turkish Foreign Minister Mesut Yilmaz was expected to give Saudi monarch King Fahd a message from Evren later Monday concerning the session.

Upon his return from a three visit to the tent cities set up by the Turkish government to house the refugees, Gabid told newsmen in Jeddah that "Sofia should be made to realise that its excesses against its own people were wrong."

MIDDLE EAST NEWS IN BRIEF

Palestinian doesn't collect Israeli prize

TEL AVIV (R) — A Palestinian from the occupied Gaza Strip won the award for the best short film at Israel's film festival but was afraid to pick it up because of the surge in anti-Arab violence. "The shelter," which won a \$10,000 prize, shows the plight of Arab workers from the occupied West Bank and Gaza Strip. The film is directed by Rashid Mashrafi and produced by Bashir Abu Rabbia who told Reuters that Mashrafi could not attend the award ceremony Saturday night because it was not safe to leave the Gaza Strip and drive through Israel. A Palestinian from Gaza was killed that day by Israelis who stoned his car causing it to crash in a reprisal attack for the killing of 14 people in an Israeli bus Thursday. An Israeli-made film about the Palestinian uprising in the occupied territories won the award for feature films.

Iraqi leader meets Chaldean patriarch

BAGHDAD (AP) — President Saddam Hussein met Monday with the head of the Chaldean Catholic Church, Patriarch Raphael I. Bidawood, Baghdad Radio reported. The radio said Hussein told the patriarch his government works for the welfare of Iraqis of every faith, so that "Iraqis enjoy a suitable position among the world nations." It gave no other details of the meeting. Bidawood, 67, was elected head of the Chaldean Church of Babylon and the East by a synod of 16 bishops in May following the death of Patriarch Mar Paul II Cheiko. The Chaldeans, who number around 750,000, are the largest Christian community in Iraq. Their church is affiliated to Rome, but unlike other Catholic churches which are headed by a cardinal appointed by the Pope, the Chaldeans elect their own patriarch. There are an estimated 300,000 Chaldeans living outside Iraq, mostly in the United States where they or their forebears emigrated from Iraq, Iran, Lebanon, Syria and Turkey, the original geographical base of the sect.

Moshe Kol dies at 78

TEL AVIV (R) — Moshe Kol, one of the signatories of Israel's 1948 declaration of "independence," died Friday aged 78, the government announced Sunday. Born in Pinsk, Byelorussia, Kol was one of the founders of the liberal Zionist movement and served as Israeli minister of tourism from 1966 until the early 1970s. He also held many positions in the Jewish Agency, was president of the centrist Liberal Party from 1961 to 1965 and founded the independent Liberal Party in 1965. Kol was buried Sunday after his body had lain in state in the courtyard of the Jewish Agency building in occupied Jerusalem.

Syria, Afghanistan sign agreement

DAMASCUS (R) — Syria and Afghanistan, both allies of the Soviet Union, have signed a friendship agreement aimed at promoting cooperation, officials said. The agreement was signed Sunday by Afghan Vice-President Abdul Rahim Hatf, who is on an official visit to Syria, and Syrian Vice-President Zuhair Masharqa. Masharqa reiterated Syria's support for the Afghan government and said the Afghan people should settle their problems without foreign interference. Damascus supports the Kabul government in its 10-year-old conflict with Western-backed Mujahedeen rebels.

Seoul pledges to help Iraq's reconstruction

BAGHDAD (AP) — South Korean Foreign Minister Chi Ho Joong Sunday pledged help for Iraq's post-war reconstruction and urged both Iraq and Iran to reach a lasting settlement of the Gulf conflict.

Joong told a news conference that South Korean construction firms are "fully prepared" to assist in rebuilding the Iraqi economy after the eight-year war, which was suspended by a United Nations-mediated ceasefire last Aug. 20.

Joong, who arrived Saturday, held talks with President Saddam Hussein and Deputy Prime Minister Taha Yassen Ramadan. He brought a message from South Korean President Roh Tae Woo expressing Seoul's wish to boost economic and political ties with Baghdad.

Joong said South Korea supports efforts for a dialogue that would lead to a peace treaty between Iran and Iraq.

"We think dialogue will bring about peace and prosperity in this part of the world," he said.

Several rounds of U.N.-sponsored talks between the Gulf war foes have brought no progress towards a peace treaty.

Joong denied reports that South Korea supplied Iraq and Iran with weapons during the war, saying "our constant policy is not to supply arms to countries

in areas of dispute or conflict."

South Korea is a major trade partner for Iraq, with annual exports amounting to \$42 million, mostly electronic goods, and imports of \$146 million, mainly oil.

Several South Korean firms have undertaken large-scale construction work in Iraq, including roads, power plants and irrigation projects.

Seoul last year extended more than \$170 million in credits for guaranteed exports to Iraq. It is believed that Iraq's debts to South Korea exceed \$2 billion.

South Korea also maintains good economic relations with Iran, but Joong dismissed as "mere speculation" a Tehran newspaper report last week that Seoul has agreed to help complete a \$4-billion Iranian-Japanese petrochemical project at Bandar Khomeini in southern Iran.

Iraqi Foreign Minister Tariq Aziz told the news conference that Iraq was keen to increase cooperation with South Korea in scientific and cultural fields.

But he warned that Iraq will consider as a hostile action any country's decision to provide Iran with weapons "so long as Iran rejects as a peace settlement."

Iraq and South Korea also announced they would upgrade relations to ambassador level.

Rights group urges pressure on Israel

PARIS (R) — A Paris-based human rights organisation has called for international pressure on Israel to open peace talks with Palestinians, saying the situation in the occupied territories was alarming.

The International Federation of Human Rights said a delegation which included two lawyers, a magistrate and a doctor had spent a week investigating conditions in Israel itself and the occupied territories.

"The mission found a very alarming situation, with a real absence of civil rights in the occupied

territories," the organisation said in a statement.

It "urgently calls on the international authorities to exert the necessary pressure on the Israeli authorities to... encourage the start of negotiations leading to peace based on the respect of two nations called upon to coexist in the same region."

It cited the army's closure of West Bank schools and universities, village curfews imposed for days and even weeks, police and army brutality against civilians, long periods of detention without adequate legal supervision, the

destruction of houses and expulsion of civilians to southern Lebanon.

The federation said medical services were being hindered from visiting the wounded and the number of people wounded by rubber bullets was rising. Locals were encountering administrative harassment in every aspect of everyday life.

It called for West Bank schools and universities to be reopened, medical services to be allowed to operate and curfews to be imposed only when necessary for security reasons.

Iran accused of 2,000 political executions

BAGHDAD (Agencies) — The main Iranian opposition group has accused Tehran of executing more than 2,000 political prisoners since last August's ceasefire in the Gulf war.

The group's leader Masoud Rajavi charged that Iran was publicly hanging large numbers of dissidents, claiming they were drug smugglers.

In a telex to Reuters in Baghdad, Rajavi, the leader of the Iraq-based Mujahedeen-e-Khalq, said he had sent a death list to U.N. Secretary-General Javier Perez de Cuellar containing the names and personal details of the executed prisoners.

Rajavi said in his letter that the 2,023 people listed, "form only a fraction of the innumerable political executions that have taken

place incessantly in Iran throughout the same period."

He said the victims "who were invariably subjected to torture prior to execution, ranged from teenagers to ageing mothers and fathers."

In recent months, the (late Ayatollah Ruhollah) Khomeini's mediaeval dictatorship has also banned in public large groups of political prisoners in different Iranian cities, claiming they were drug smugglers," Rajavi said.

He said "large numbers of those killed were Mujahedeen women whose bodies were left hanging in public "to teach the public a lesson."

A Reuters tally of executed drug smugglers shows that 696 have been hanged since the beginning of the year.



Masoud Rajavi

JORDAN TELEVISION

Tel: 773111-19

PROGRAMME ONE
15:30 Koran
15:45 Programme review
15:55 Children programmes
17:05 News in Arabic
18:05 Local programme
19:10 Agricultural programme
19:45 Programme review
20:05 News in Arabic
20:30 Arabic series
21:30 Programme review
21:45 Local programme
22:30 News summary in Arabic

PROGRAMME TWO
17:30 Le Monde Est a Vieux
19:10 News in French
19:15 Tante
19:30 News in Hebrew
20:00 News in Arabic
20:30 Paul Daniel's Magic Show
21:10 Charlie Chaplin
22:30 News in English
22:35 Wish Me Luck II

PRAYER TIMES

04:00 Fajr
05:30 (Shari'a) Dhuha
12:41 Dhuhr
16:20 Asr
19:45 Maghrib
21:24 Isha

CHURCHES

St. Mary of Nazareth Church, Sweteth
Tel. 810740
Assembly of God Church, Tel.
63785
St. Joseph Church Tel. 624590
Church of the Annunciation Tel.
637440
De la Salle Church Tel. 661757
Terresanta Church Tel. 623260
Church of the Annunciation Tel.
623541
Assyrian Church Tel. 625383, Tel.
625843
Armenian Catholic Church Tel.
771331
Armenian Orthodox Church Tel.
775261
St. Ephraim Church Tel. 771751
Assyrian International Church Tel.
683326
Evangelical Lutheran Church Tel.
811295
The Church of Jesus Christ of Latter-
Day Saints Tel. 813817, 821254

WEATHER

Bulletin supplied by the Department of
Meteorology.
Temperatures will be around the
annual average for this time of the year
and winds will be northeasterly and
strong. In Amman, winds will be northerly
fresh and sea calm.

JORDAN TIMES DAILY GUIDE AND CALENDAR

Amman Min./max. temp.
19/31
Aqaba 25/40
Deserts 19/36
Jordan Valley 22/38

Yesterday's high temperatures: Amman 31; Aqaba 40. Humidity reading: Amman 31 per cent, Aqaba 31 per cent.

USEFUL TELEPHONE NUMBERS

NIGHT DUTY

AMMAN:
Dr. Ibrahim Abu Quta 675480
Dr. Munther Al Qureini 776258
Dr. Ibrahim Abu Hammad 774236
Dr. Othman Mustafa 774024
Firas pharmacy 651912
Fenjows pharmacy 778236
Al Asma pharmacy 637005
Nawroth pharmacy 626072
Al Salem pharmacy 656730
Yacoub pharmacy 644945
Shamsani pharmacy 637660

IRBID:
Dr. Ali Al Shuqaid (—)
Al Shams pharmacy (985238)
ZARQA:
Company 636381
RJ Flight Information 08-53200
Queen Alia Intl. Airport 08-53200

Dr. Ziad Salim (—)
Khalifeh pharmacy 985417

EMERGENCIES

Civil Defence Department 661111
Civil Defence Emergency 630341
Rescue 623622
Civil Defence Emergency 199
Rescue Police 192, 621111, 637777
Fire Brigade 891228
Blood Bank 775121
Highway Police 843402
Traffic Police 896390
Public Security Department 630311
Hotel Complaints 605800
Price Complaints 661776
Water and Sewerage 897467
Complaints 787111
Telephone Information 121
Overseas Calls 010230
Central Amman Telephone 623101
Regency 661101
Abdullah Telephone Regimen 661101
Jordan Television 773111
Jordan Radio 774111
Jordan Electricity Authority 815615
Electric Power 636381
RJ Flight Information 08-53200
Queen Alia Intl. Airport 08-53200

HOSPITALS

AMMAN:
Husseini Medical Centre 813813/2
Khalifeh Maternity, J. Amn 642616
Akil Maternity, J. Amn 642412
Jahid Maternity 642362
Mahdine, J. Amman 630140
Palestine, Shamsani 664171/4
Shamsani Hospital 669131
University Hospital 645845
Al-Mustashir Hospital 667270
The Islamic, Abdali 666127/37
Al-Ahli, Abdali 664164/6
Islamic, Al-Muhajreen 777012/3
Al-Basail, J. Ashrafieh 751112/6
Army, Marka 891611/5
Queen Alia Hospital 602240/50
Ansal Hospital 602240/50
ZARQA:
Zarqa Govt. Hospital (09)98332
Zarqa National Hospital (09)991071
De Sina Hospital (09)986732
IRBID:
Princess Summa Hospital (02)775555
Greek Catholic Hospital (02)772215
The Al-Nufus Hospital (02)247100
AQABA:
Princess Haya Hospital (03)314111

FOR THE TRAVELLER

QUEEN ALIA INTERNATIONAL AIRPORT

This information is supplied by Royal Jordanian (RJ) Information department of the Queen Alia International Airport Tel. (08)53200-5, where it should always be verified.

ARRIVALS

Royal Jordanian (RJ) Flights (Terminal 1)

06:30 Singapore, Kuala Lumpur (RJ)
09:30 Kuwait (add.) (RJ)
09:45 Abu Dhabi (RJ)
10:00 Doha (add.) (RJ)
10:15 Athens (RJ)
10:30 Jeddah (RJ)
10:35 Cairo (RJ)
10:40 Kuwait (RJ)
10:50 Moscow, Dubai (RJ)
10:55 Doha, Bahrain (RJ)
11:00 Milan, Vienna (RJ)
11:05 Athens (RJ)
11:15 Montreal, New York (RJ)
11:45 Doha (add.) (RJ)
11:50 Athens (RJ)
12:00 Bahrain, Doha (RJ)
12:30 Frankfurt, Brussels (RJ)
12:45 Damascus (RJ)
12:50 Kuwait (RJ)
12:55 Bahrain, Doha (RJ)
13:15 Beirut (RJ)
13:15 Belgrade (RJ)
13:40 Istanbul, Ankara (RJ)
13:45 Copenhagen, Frankfurt (RJ)
13:50 Athens (RJ)
14:15 Kuwait (add.) (RJ)
14:45 Kuwait (RJ)

Other Flights (Terminal 2)

11:20 Kuwait (RJ)

13:20 Cairo (MS)
13:30 Moscow (SU)
13:45 Riyadh (SV)
14:00 Rome (AZ)
14:10 Dubai (EK)
14:15 Zurich, Larnaca (SR)
14:30 London (BA)

DEPARTURES

Royal Jordanian (RJ) Flights (Terminal 1)



Minister of Culture and Information Nasouh Majali Monday addresses the Jordanian national committee for the International Decade of Cultural Development (1987-1997).

Jordan seeks to meet objectives of decade of cultural development

AMMAN (Petra) — Minister of Culture and Information Nasouh Majali Monday said that cultural development should go in line with the various aspects of development, in view of its significance to all these aspects.

This significance attached to cultural development has prompted the United Nations Educational, Scientific and Cultural Organisation (UNESCO) to form national committees in charge of cultural development in the various countries.

Addressing a meeting of the Jordanian national committee for the International Decade of Cultural Development (1987-1997), Majali said Jordan has been one of the pioneer countries, which have responded to the will of UNESCO for setting up such committees and for the decade, and is doing all its best to achieve the decade's objectives.

Majali defined the cultural development as culture in its broadest meaning, including theatre, plastic arts, literature and national heritage that reflects the unique personality of each country.

Majali summed up the decade's objective, saying that they focus on taking the cultural dimension in the various development plans and stressing the cultural identity, broadening peoples participating in cultural life and enhancing international cultural cooperation.

Majali pointed out that culture is no longer restricted to a certain category of educated people, because human innovation is a centre of radiation that sends its rays in all directions with the aim of enlightening public opinion and causing the necessary change.

During Monday's session, participants have drawn up a clear cut practical plan of action and set their priorities for work.

Taking part in the meetings are representatives for Ministries of Culture and Information, Higher Education, Education and Planning as well as the four Jordanian universities, the Royal Academy for Islamic Civilisation Research (Al Al Bait Foundation), Academy of Arabic and the Jordanian Writers Federation.

Tawjihi students given 2nd chance by ministry

By Suhair Obaidat
Jordan Times Staff Reporter

AMMAN — The Ministry of Education has announced that students who failed the Tawjihi examinations held several weeks ago now have the right to repeat only the course or courses that they failed, and do not have to repeat the whole academic year in order to pass.

"In accepting the recommendations of the special panel reassessing the Tawjihi exam system, Education Minister Abdullah Nsour told a news conference Monday that students who have failed can sit for the exams during the next academic year and take them in two phases (mid-term exams and final exams).

The Ministry of Education traditionally has used two categories: students who passed the Tawjihi exams and those who failed. Receiving a grade report marked with "failed" has a very negative effect on the student who had spent an entire year studying and preparing for the exams, Nsour explained.

"It was as if he did not achieve anything, and he will have to do it all over again the next academic

year," he said.

According to Nsour, even if a student excelled in his courses, but failed one or more, he was branded as having "failed."

In such cases, the Ministry used to require the student to sit for the Tawjihi exams again the following year, repeating courses they may have already passed.

The Ministry took a further step by giving the students the right to repeat a course that they passed with a low mark, in an attempt to improve their average. A student also may repeat all the courses, but only the second mark will be recorded.

Nsour said that these new rights will be provided to the students only once. In the further attempts, the student will have to repeat the whole Tawjihi exam,

because of expected changes in the curriculum.

"The committee of education saw that this measure prevents the Ministry from branding our students with failure," said the minister. "Instead, we highlight the positive side by announcing in the grade report that the student passed the other courses. With this, we make some of the changes and reforms that the decision to develop education in Jordan aimed at."

But, Nsour pointed out, this right will not be given to students who sat for the Tawjihi exam in previous years, and is restricted only to the results that will appear in the coming few days.

The recommendations adopted by the ministry were issued by a special panel mandated by a national conference on education.

Other topics raised at the press conference, Nsour commented on the ministry's decision to divide the Greater Amman Education Department into three zones. He explained that in Amman alone there are 430 government schools, and all their teachers sort to one director.

"The education director should at least know their names, in case



Minister of Education Abdullah Nsour Monday speaks to journalists at the ministry. (Petra photo)

he wants to change and shift them," Nsour said about the headmasters of the schools. "We discovered that there is a great number of schools that were not officially visited by the ministry."

Nsour then pointed out that, in a change from the past, private sector education has grown and expanded, and that the number of private schools, mainly commercial ones, has increased dramatically.

"This has many side effects on the structure of the society, caus-

ing frictions, let alone the excessiveness in fees and violation of the ministry's regulations," he said.

As a result, the ministry's new organisational structure allocates a special department to take exclusive responsibility for private sector education. In Greater Amman alone, there are 3,300 teachers in private schools.

"The child is our responsibility, whether he graduated from a private or a government school, that is why the law has authorised

us to complete supervision to the private schools, specifically the commercial ones," he stressed.

Referring to the educational development process, Nsour noted that it is a complete and comprehensive one, designed to change and improve every aspect of the educational process, namely the curriculum, in terms of contents and objectives. He outlined the importance of this comprehensive development process, saying that it is primarily about instilling good values in the pupils in students.

Majali named royal advisor

AMMAN (Petra) — His Royal Highness Crown Prince Hassan, the Regent, Monday visited Abdul Salam Majali and congratulated him on his appointment as advisor to His Majesty King Hussein. The Regent also paid tribute to the efforts Majali exerted for the development of the University of Jordan. Prince Hassan was accompanied by Royal Court Chief Thouqan Hindawi and Minister of Higher Education Nasserredin Assad. Mahmoud Samra was appointed president of the University of Jordan to succeed Majali.



King honours Turkish envoy

AMMAN (Petra) — His Majesty King Hussein has bestowed upon the outgoing Turkish Ambassador to Jordan Semih Belen the Independence Medal of the First Order in appreciation for the efforts he exerted to strengthen Jordanian-Turkish relations. Foreign Ministry Secretary General Mustafa Bilicci Monday presented the medal to the ambassador during a luncheon in his honour. (Petra Photo)

Majali, U.N. drug control chief discuss more support for Jordan

AMMAN (Petra) — Public Security Department (PSD) Director General Abdul Hadi Al Majali Monday said that Jordan does not suffer from any drug abuse problems, due to the controls and regulations banning the illegal admission and use of such drugs.

At a meeting with the Assistant United Nations Secretary General and Director of the United Nations Fund for Drug Abuse Control Giuseppe de Jemaro, who arrived here Sunday, Majali pointed out that the Narcotics Control Department has succeeded in keeping Jordan clean from narcotics and has foiled all

attempts at transporting narcotics through the Jordanian territories. He added that Jordan has centred bridges of cooperation in the area of narcotics control with several foreign countries and international organisations.

Majali and de Jemaro discussed issues pertaining to increasing the fund's support for Jordan to enable it to develop its efforts to counter the dangers of narcotics on the regional level, and providing Jordan with the necessary equipment which facilitates the work of the Narcotics Control Department and enable it to cope with the present and future changes.

The two officials also discussed prospects for supporting Jordan in its plans to combat narcotics trafficking, and transporting through the Jordanian territories, deserts and the Aqaba Gulf.

Such efforts need to be supplemented and enhanced by modern equipment and technology, and boats as well as training of narcotics control personnel.

The meeting was attended by Assistant PSD Director for Judicial police, directors of the Public Relations, Criminal Investigations, Narcotics and Forgery Control Departments and the commander of the Badia and Desert Police.

NAF gives JD 2,082 in aid

AMMAN (Petra) — The National Aid Fund (NAF) gave JD 2,082 in cash assistance to some 128 special hardship cases during June, thus bringing to JD 190,212 the amount of cash assistance provided to some 9,328 eligible cases registered so far with the fund, according to NAF Secretary General Khalil Faouri.

Faouri said that a case could receive up to JD 40 a month, based on the findings of a socio-economic study carried out by

fund officials. Faouri pointed out that cash assistance is given to needy people such as orphans, aged and disabled people, families of helpless patients, supportless divorcees, foster mothers who look after orphan children, or homeless children.

The fund's secretary general said that the fund directs special attention to the needy areas, particularly the south region, the eastern desert region and the

rural and remote areas, where social workers are working closely with community leaders on identifying the cases which qualify for the cash assistance.

Faouri also said that the fund provides emergency cash assistance, which could reach up to JD 100 for one time only, to each case encountering an emergency situation, to enable it to overcome the emergency, which leaves the family without a supporter.



Soviet students visit University of Jordan

University of Jordan President Abdul Salam Al Majali Monday received a visiting Soviet student delegation from Tashkent University, currently on a visit to Jordan, and briefed them on the university's philosophy, saying that it is based on mutual intellectual interaction between the students and teachers in a friendly atmosphere. Majali pointed out to the credit hour system applied by the university and said the door is open

for students to select the disciplines of study and the teaching staff they want. Majali referred to the studies programme, applied by the university, saying that 90 per cent of the university's enrolment in such programme, which is a part of the university's policy to attract students from outside the country, is to attend summer semesters at the

ARAMCO donates \$220,000 to UNRWA

AMMAN — Director of the United Nations Relief and Works Agency for Palestine Refugees (UNRWA) Elia Saaf Monday received from Mr. Jamal Al Sarayrah, the representative of the Arab American Oil Company (ARAMCO) a cheque for \$220,000, donated for the benefit of Palestinian refugee children. The amount represents ARAM-

CO's contribution towards UNRWA's scholarship and vocational training programmes and other UNRWA programmes in 1989. CO makes this contribution to UNRWA every year for the benefit of Palestine refugees. (Petra photo)

Contracts signed for 2 road projects

AMMAN (Petra) — Minister of Public Works and Housing Shafiq Zawaideh and directors of two local contracting companies Monday signed two contracts for the construction of two roads at a cost of JD 13,706,000, to be financed by the Japanese Cooperation Fund.

The first project includes the construction of Irbid-Mafraq-Jerash Road at a cost of JD 10 million.

The second project, which involves the construction of 16 kilometre four-lane divided highway linking Zarqa stream near Jerash with Baqaa, construction of a bridge and three different intersections, will be completed in 900 days, according to Zawaideh.

This project will be completed in 700 days at a total cost of JD 3.7 million.

Expatriates discuss science, technology

AMMAN (Petra) — The fifth Jordanian Expatriates Conference Monday discussed a working paper on the role of science and technology in development presented by Higher Council of Science and Technology (HCST) Secretary General Abdullah Touqan.

The paper highlighted the importance of employing science and technology in the industrial, agricultural and service sectors and its contribution to the acceleration of economic growth and achievement of stability and social welfare. The paper included background information about the scopes of developing this vital sector and profitable investment opportunities in existing and potential projects that depend on technology.

In his working paper, Touqan pointed out the importance of setting up the HCST in 1987, saying that it is designed to build a scientific and technological base capable of achieving the objectives of economic, social and cultural development in Jordan.

The paper summed up the duties and authorities of the

Council, which is responsible for approving the general policy of science and technology, defining its priorities, drawing up programmes, and following up on the implementation of this policy. The Council also takes charge of supporting scientific and technological research and activities and arranging contracts with local, Arab and international bodies concerned with science and technology. The paper noted that, in view of the interaction between the Jordanian economy and those of the Arab Cooperation Council (ACC), more efforts should be made to ensure a greater degree of coordination among the economies of Jordan, Iraq, North Yemen and Egypt with a view toward increasing opportunities of investments in all fields with a main concentration on science and technology.

The paper pointed out that Jordan aspires to become a centre for providing Arab countries with the experience and know how in science and technology-related areas, in view of unique geographical position and the political

stability it enjoys. The paper also touched upon Jordan's efforts to link the production process with technology and research in this context, to the establishment of the Jordanian Technology Group, which seeks to enhance the pace of economic and technological development in Jordan through the development of industrial and technological services in Jordan and the Arab World.

Also, addressing the conference's morning session, the agriculture Minister Adnan Badran, who pointed out that Jordan has entered the maintenance and services phase after completing the infrastructure projects, stressed the need for strengthening capacities and resources towards maintaining the achievements which has cost Jordan millions of dinars. Badran also said that Jordan encourages investments in live stock development projects and voiced the ministry's readiness to provide the land and water needed for these projects. He specially identified areas of investment in Jordan such as fodder and insecticides projects.

Jordan gets 20 ibex from San Diego

AMMAN (R) — Jordan has received 20 young ibex from the San Diego Wild Animal Park in California, for eventual release into the wild, a conservation official said Monday.

"This is a significant contribution to rebuilding the stock of an endangered species in Jordan," said Coppette Soahin of Jordan's Royal Society for the Conservation of Nature.

The ibex, three to four months old, arrived in crates on Sunday

night and were driven to the Shomari Wildlife Reserve in east Jordan for a week of acclimatisation, she told Reuters.

They will then be penned on the rugged slopes of Wadi Mujib, one of two areas of Jordan where ibex still roam.

"When they start to breed in about two years' time, we will release them from the enclosure into the wild," Soahin said.

The ibex is a wild goat with curved, ridged horns found in

Saudi Arabia, Oman, Egypt, Sudan and Syria as well as Jordan.

Ibex and ostrich are depicted in prehistoric rock paintings in the desert mountains of Wadi Rum, in southern Jordan, the other area where native ibex survive.

The San Diego Wild Animal Park sent the ibex as a gift after representatives attended an Amman conference on the Arabian oryx, a rare antelope reintroduced in Jordan in 1970.

Mahadin appointed to Royal Court

AMMAN (J.T.) — A cabinet decision has been taken appointing Khaled Mahadin as special adviser for press and information at the Royal Court.

Before his new appointment, Mahadin worked as columnist at the Al Rai Arabic daily.



WHAT'S GOING ON

The following listings are compiled from monthly bulletins and the daily Arabic press. Readers are advised to verify the listed time and place with the concerned institutions.

EXHIBITIONS

- ★ An art exhibition by three Arab artists representing Bahrain, Syria and Jordan at the Housing Bank Art Gallery.
- ★ A photography exhibition by August Sander at the Yarmouk University.
- ★ An exhibition of posters which show the history of puppets at the French Cultural Centre. 7:00 p.m.

FILMS

- ★ A scientific programme entitled "Journey Through the Solar System" at the American Centre — 7:00 p.m.

في الأمل

Jordan Times

An independent Arab political daily published in English by the Jordan Press Foundation. Established 1974

جوردين تايمز يومية عربية سياسية مستقلة تصدر بالانجليزية عن المؤسسة الصحفية الاردنية

Editorial Director:

RAKAN AL MAJALI

Director General:

DR. RADI AL WAQFI

Editor-in-Chief:

DR. WALEED M. SADI

Editorial and advertising offices:

Jordan Press Foundation,
University Road, P.O. Box 6710, Amman, Jordan.

Telephones: 667171-6, 670141-4, 684311, 684366

Telex: 21497 ALRAI JO

Facsimile: 661242

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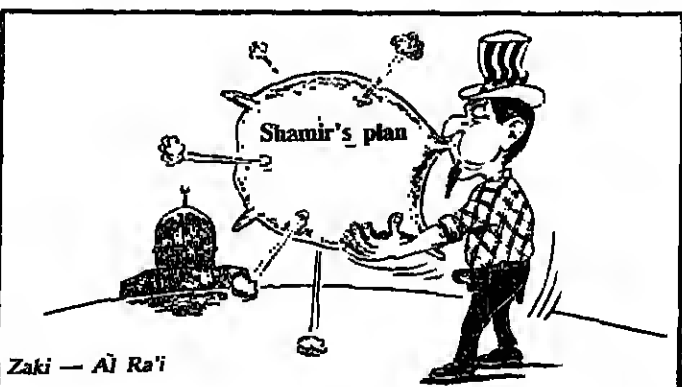
Ease matters for expatriates

PERHAPS uppermost on the mind of Jordanian expatriates willing to invest in the country is how to ensure the free flow of their revenues and profits into and from Jordan. Once such a guarantee is made available to them in no uncertain legal terms, their minds would be put to ease in a way that would further encourage their involvement in the development of their home country.

Equally relevant and important is to remove all cumbersome bureaucratic and taxation obstacles that could dampen the zeal of potential Jordanian investors. To impose on expatriates prohibitive departure fees or the so-called "honour tax" would discourage them. Except for some countries, expatriates, especially in North America and Europe, already pay very high tax on their income. Certainly, income tax levied on income generated within the country is more profitable and more legitimate than one levied on income generated abroad. It would be much wiser from an economic point of view to erase all barriers in the path of expatriates because that is the proven way to enhance their confidence and ensure the flow of funds into the country. The lesser regulations expatriates encounter the better the prospects of an influx of money into the coffers of the country.

And in view of the fact that expatriate conferences occur annually, it would be most useful for Jordan and its expatriates to avail themselves of a standing committee with a mandate to oversee the implementation of annual resolutions and to record new information and data on the overall Jordan-expatriate relations.

Since expatriates and their families form almost one fourth of Jordanian nationals, and since their affairs and concerns cover all aspects of life, it would not be a far shot to call for the establishment of a ministry of expatriates that would handle their affairs through coordination with other ministries and official bodies.



Zaki - Al Ra'i

JORDAN PRESS EDITORIALS

Al Ra'i daily commented Monday on the expatriate conference and its significance for Jordan at this difficult stage. The paper referred in particular to an address by Foreign Minister Marwan Al Qasem to the delegates, outlining Jordan's firm pan-Arab policy and underlining the country's continued endeavours to serve the Palestinian cause. It said that the speech explained Jordan's stand vis-a-vis the regional and pan-Arab situation and removed all doubts about the Kingdom's solid support for the Palestinians in their struggle to regain their legitimate rights. The expatriates realise Jordan's position and also the economic difficulties it is now facing largely as a result of this firm pan-Arab stand and its shouldering of national responsibilities particularly towards the Palestinians, the paper noted. Jordan has severed links with the West Bank, helped the PLO to assume complete leadership of the Palestinian people and continues to uphold the Palestinian people's rights and to offer them all possible assistance, the paper added. It said that the expatriates have a national responsibility towards the Kingdom which is now in need of help and support in its endeavours to pursue the course of construction and to maintain its support and assistance to the Palestinian people.

A columnist in Al Ra'i daily Monday draws attention to the soaring prices of all consumer goods in Jordan and notes that merchants are concealing various goods and raising prices. Rakan Al Majali, who is also the paper's editor says that the rise in prices of various commodities does not tally with the 30 to 40 per cent devaluation of the dinar and that the merchants are making the life of consumers miserable by acting irresponsibly. Concealing consumer goods and hiking their prices for the sake of making quick profits is bound to aggravate the situation and complicate matters both for the consumers and the government, says Majali. This action, he adds, has prompted many people to resort to hoarding commodities for no reason except for fear of future shortages. The Ministry of Supply is of course not capable of coping with the situation since its regulations do not provide for imposing strict penalties on violators, the writer continues. He says that the Jordanian family, as a whole, should demonstrate a greater sense of national belonging and cooperate in overcoming the present difficult circumstances and ending the manipulation of the merchants.

Sawt Al Shabab daily commented Monday on Jordanian-Syrian cooperation in the light of the ongoing talks in Damascus. The paper said that the joint higher committee is paving the way for a greater measure of cooperation in industrial, agricultural, transport, health and other numerous fields. The current talks have already yielded good results with both sides stating that Damascus and Amman hold identical views concerning pan-Arab and domestic affairs, the paper noted. It said there is no doubt that the committee's efforts will boost bilateral cooperation in all fields.

Weekly Political Pulse

International conference remains only viable option

By Waleed Sadi

THE WINNER of the stalemated peace process in the Middle East is clearly the cause of extremism. Of late one has seen more manifestation of extremism than ever. Especially ominous is the rise to power and fame of the extremist of the extreme in Israel as evidenced by the capitulation of Shamir to the terms and conditions of Sharon, Levy and Mod'ai. On the Palestinian side, despair and frustration are also driving the Palestinian people under occupation to extremist actions and reactions. All in all the cause of peace has become the obvious victim and the stagnation of the so-called peace process in the Middle East the villain.

At this critical stage of Middle Eastern politics only Washington has the real clout and prowess to reverse the course of extremism and despair, assuming it wants to play such a noble role. There are many reasons why this proposition is true. To begin with, the U.S. can be credited with the primary responsibility for thwarting all international efforts to convene an international conference on the Middle East. The Israeli opposition to the conference idea would not have been able to withstand all the international pressures exerted in support of holding such a conference had the U.S. government refrained from aiding and abetting such an Israeli stance. By choosing to accommodate Israel on this point

for so long, Israel's phobia against the active involvement of the U.N. Security Council in the search for a permanent settlement of the Arab-Israeli conflicts became fortified more than ever. Accordingly, to catapult the peace process in its proper context and course once again would require the return to the only remaining viable way to bring the Palestinian question to peaceful resolution, namely, the principle of holding an international conference under the auspices of the U.N. Security Council. The relevancy of holding an international conference goes beyond its format and its cosmetic features. After decades of bitter conflicts between Israel and the Arab World, it must have dawned on everyone concerned that the nature and dimensions of the differences between the two sides are objective. In other words the gap between Israel and the Arab parties most directly involved in the conflict is too wide and substantive to be bridged without the active participation of an international arbitration machinery. Left alone, there is credible doubt that the Palestinians and the Israelis would ever succeed in resolving the complex issues that divided them for so long.

That is exactly why the election formula that was floated by Israel's prime minister was doomed to failure right from the start

and even before the revelation of its true colours. Had Sharon, Levy and Mod'ai stayed quiet for the time being and kept their conditions secret for a while, it is sure that the same very stipulations would have surfaced in one form or another along the path of the election idea. With all fairness there is nothing inherently wrong with elections, per se, as they are the most scientific and honest way to gauge the sentiment and aspirations of the people. What was fatally wrong about the election idea is the underlying Israeli conviction that it must never be allowed to come to full fruition. Luckily, Sharon and his clique chose to expose the true dimensions and scope of such elections in a rather precipitous way for the whole world to see. In this context the Israeli trio rendered the Arab parties great service by revealing their cards before the poker game was played out.

There is no escape from the conclusion that only the convening of an international conference under the aegis of the U.N. Security Council can rescue the peace process from imminent death. The Arabs and Israelis are obviously in need for a midwife to deliver the much sought after peace from the womb of fruitless efforts and experiments. The Middle East has had more than its share of still births and now is the time to resort to more safe methods to bring peace to the region.

Egyptian-Israeli relation — correct but distant

By Henry Tanner

CAIRO — Ten years after Egypt and Israel signed their peace treaty, relations between the two countries remain correct but decidedly distant.

"We recognise each other's existence but we are neither friends nor partners," a prominent Egyptian said.

The Israeli embassy in Cairo delivers some 6,000 visas a year, almost all of them to Palestinian students visiting their families in the occupied territories. Only about 60 genuine Egyptians make the trip every year, most of them tour operators and others dealing with tourism.

Some 70,000 Israelis visit Egypt, according to the embassy. The trade balance is equally meager. Some \$6 million worth of Israeli goods are crossing the border, and another \$10 million or \$12 million worth are finding

their way via Europe. Irrigation machinery and other agricultural equipment and seeds account for most of these amounts.

The figures have barely changed over the years, even as periods of political tension alternated with others of relative calm. The Israelis initially had high hopes for full-fledged trade relations but were quickly disappointed. The Egyptians, with the possible exception of President Anwar Sadat, were determined from the beginning that this should be little more than a "cold peace."

But peace it is. And as such, obviously, it is of primordial importance to both. There is more than symbolic meaning in the fact that the Israeli flag flies on the roof of the embassy behind the bank of the Nile even while the flags of almost all the Arab countries have gone up around Cairo. President Hosni Mubarak in-

jected a note of personal aloofness into the relationship as soon as he came to power. But he stuck to the letter of the agreement even at the most difficult moments.

When Israel invaded Lebanon in 1982, he withdrew his ambassador. There was speculation that he would cut off relations, and many Egyptians urged him to do so. But he sent an ambassador back eventually.

The Egyptian government was deeply embarrassed again when the uprising erupted in the West Bank and Gaza in December 1987 and the Israeli army sought to repress it. During the first weeks the Egyptians feared violent popular demonstrations at home as well as severe Arab pressures.

But it turned out that by that time the peace, cold as it was, was no longer contested except by the

most avid hardliners, and the government found that the pressure on it was not as severe as it had feared it would be.

Two months later, when Mr. Mubarak was asked during a visit to the Gulf whether he intended to withdraw his ambassador from Israel, he answered on television that this would be a stupid reaction because having an Arab ambassador in Israel was in the Arab's interest.

Now, as Egypt has returned to the Arab League with the peace treaty intact and Yasser Arafat's political initiatives endorsed by the Arab leaders, it is possible, some foreign diplomats say, that the Israeli-Egyptian relationship may gain a new diplomatic dimension.

Certainly the Egyptians, who are being given credit by the State Department for having helped bring Mr. Arafat to Geneva and

facilitating the start of a Palestinian-U.S. dialogue in Tunis, are eager to become mediators between Israel and the Palestine Liberation Organisation. This was one reason why Mr. Mubarak sent his deputy foreign minister, Butros Butros Ghali, to Jerusalem soon after the Casablanca summit.

A second, more subtle intention was hinted at by an official who said that the Egyptians wanted to signal to Prime Minister Yitzhak Shamir that they were ready to have a constructive dialogue with him at a time when he was under pressure from the more extreme hawks in his government.

In the event Mr. Shamir was reported to have told Mr. Butros Ghali that he had no need for Egyptian mediation.

But Mr. Arafat is spending much of his time in Cairo these days. And as the conditions and

objectives of elections in the West Bank and Gaza continue to be explored with suggestions from Americans, Soviets and others as well as Palestinians, Israelis and Egyptians — and since all these parties are present in Cairo — it would be surprising if diplomatic life were not a good deal more active than it looks on the surface.

Israelis charge that Egyptian officials discourage applicants for visas and that Egyptian intellectuals and journalists with few exceptions continue to avoid contact with their visiting Israeli counterparts.

Egyptians say that Israel was unrealistic to think it could have flourishing economic and cultural relations while playing tough on the all-important political level and continuing to rule out Palestinian self-determination and, eventually, statehood — International Herald Tribune.

Dissenters say France whitewashes dark side of revolution

By Mort Rosenblum
The Associated Press

LES HERBIERS, France — In the rolling hills of France's Vendee region, where liberty and brotherhood were eclipsed by scorched earth and slaughter, talk of the French revolution bicentennial provokes cool hard stares.

"For us, it was a horrible genocide, a lasting source of national shame," remarked Roger Jouteau, manager of this little town which is still recovering from a Republican assault in 1794.

As official France basks in glory, many Frenchmen dispute the view that their revolution shaped the notion of universal human rights. They accuse authorities of whitewashing a black period.

A group of dissenters hopes to assemble 500,000 people on Aug. 15 to pray for forgiveness of revolutionary excesses. They will gather at the Place de la Concorde, where Louis XVI was beheaded.

But bitterness is profound and personal in the Vendee, a region of rich farmland south of the Loire River and spreading east from the Atlantic Ocean.

"The first human right is the right to truth," said Philippe de Villiers, member of parliament from Vendee, in raucous debate on the popular television programme "Apostrophes."

His book, "Open Letter to the Head Choppers and Liars of the Bicentennial," notes V.I. Lenin studied France's revolution as a model, and Josef Stalin cited its terror to justify his purges.

The guillotine is famous, de Villiers argues, but few recall 300,000 Vendeeans killed in battle, disemboweled, starved, or shoved alive into bread ovens in a two-year civil war.

Most victims were not aristocrats, but peasants who defended the Roman Catholic clergy and resisted conscription to fight far-away wars. Children described as future rebels were massacred.

Such new studies as Simon Schama's U.S. bestseller, "Citizens," asserts that much of France remained loyal to King Louis XVI, who agreed to enlightened rule under a constitution.

Bicentennial celebrations, critics say, ignore the vicious, arbitrary official terror which followed and, in the resultant chaos, produced Napoleon Bonaparte and then another Bourbon king.

Typical of the Vendee, les Herbiere is to mark July 14 as it always does, with only the brief ceremony ordered by Paris.

"To forget what happened, it is shocking," Jouteau said. "To spend hundreds of millions of francs that could be used for other things, shocking."

De Villiers hammered at this theme on television, criticising what he estimated at the equivalent

of \$50 million spent on celebrating French glory in the presence of foreign leaders.

"They're spending all this to welcome the princes of the earth and common Frenchmen can't get even close," he said, referring to security measures sealing off parts of downtown Paris for a week.

He touched a nerve across the country, but not surprisingly, reaction was strongest in Vendee.

Monique Aminda, a patriotic Frenchwoman, wears a gold necklace shaped into the region's emblem: A double heart capped by a cross and a crown to indicate loyalty to God and the king.

After watching de Villiers, she told a reporter about visiting a bicentennial display in Paris which listed enemy territories subdued by the revolution. One was the Vendee.

"I was so horrified I nearly went into shock," she said.

Yves Viollier, who writes historical novels and teaches at la Roche-sur-Yon, said de Villiers might be too strident, and his numbers might be challenged, but his point was indisputable.

At the Arc de Triomphe, focal point of French glory, he noticed among heroic names chiseled in stone that of Turreau, who sent the "infernal column" to lay waste the Vendee.

He estimated the Vendee's 1789 population at 250,000, of which 150,000 were killed on both sides in the civil war. "I'm

ready to call it genocide," he said. "What does it matter?"

Schools suppressed history of the war during the 19th century, he said, but the region was regarded with suspicion. In World War I, he added, Vendeean units were sent straight to the front.

"Until I was 11, life here was almost like it was in the 19th century," Viollier said. "It was only in the last 30 years that we rejoined the world."

As a result, he concluded, history binds Vendeeans together in a way not seen elsewhere in France, and it fuels their unusual productivity and prosperity.

At Menomblet, Albert de Villeneuve, in his 80s, recounts how in 1790 his mother's great grandfather opened his granaries to starving peasants who later shielded him from republican troops.

On the Mont des Alouettes, les Herbiere restored a windmill, the blades of which were once used to warn of Republican armies. Inside, Andre Mercier has tacked up a chart tracing an unbroken line of millers back to 1710.

His son, Stephane, 20, prefers electronics to flour, but he is upset about the bicentennial. "They are leaving out the bad side, and that is wrong," he said.

At a nearby restaurant, a diner asked the owner, Madame Daviaud, why she wasn't wearing a Vendeean double heart. She patted her chest on the left side and replied, "I wear it here."

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مكتبة الأمل

Intifada and the education dilemma

A year and six months after the intifada erupted in the occupied territories the Israeli backlash to the Palestinian movement has been apparent most ominously on the campuses of universities and in schools. It has meant indefinite closure of the institutions and a widening gap between the need and provision of that basic right, education.

By Sajid Rizvi

LONDON — For a year and six months now the stone-throwers have been on the streets of the West Bank and Gaza, while the classrooms are shut, books gathering dust and the future of the Palestinian young less defined than it was before the uprising against the Israeli occupation began in December 1987.

This may suit Israel fine. After all, the stone-throwers may be a nuisance and may occasionally have to be shot, wounded or tortured but none of that quite compares with the prospect that the Palestinian community may be headed for a much greater collective disability, deprivation of a different kind. Education, or rather the lack of it.

"The problem is getting more and more dangerous in Palestinian society," said Nasser Abdallah (not his real name), a member of a delegation of the student council of Birzeit University that visited Europe recently. "There is no sign of the reopening of the

schools and universities from the side of the Israeli military authorities."

Nor, it seems, will there be any until there is a major change of heart. How, then, is the Palestinian community coping with a closure of educational institutions at all levels — from universities to primary — for 18 months?

"A few months after the closure," said Abdallah, "we invented what is called popular teaching, which is to impart basic education to children while they are in the houses." But the Israeli authorities quickly reacted to the informal education and slapped prison terms of up to 10 years on people attempting to share knowledge. The prospect of ending up in jail for teaching a six-year-old the rudiments of the alphabet or arithmetic has not deterred the people participating in the programme.

The committees are functioning regardless of the Israeli strictures, said Abdallah, "because they are the basis of the Palestinian society now, the basis of the popular authority that has to take

action."

The Israeli ban on formal education affected 320,000 students at all school levels plus some 18,000 students at six universities. However, as the media encapsulated the most violent moments of the uprising for television and newspaper coverage, this aspect of the Israeli crackdown in intifada received scant attention.

"What the people abroad hear from the media is about the clashes between the Palestinian demonstrators and the soldiers, about the dead people and the prisoners and their injuries, not about the social problems, economic problems and the educational crisis," said Abdallah.

Indeed, of about seven hundred Palestinians who have been killed through intifada from December 1987, a high percentage, about 70 per cent, have been young Palestinians, mostly students.

Arrests have dealt a further blow. From the Birzeit University alone, some 150 students are now in detention camps. The number of injuries is simply vast, though how many of those are students remains hard to specify.

"There have been around 40,000 Palestinians injured (since intifada)," said Abdallah. "You can't tell who is a student and who is not because the whole of the population is being punished. Israeli violence is practised on the

population, and is being carried out regardless of whether one is a student or not."

The extent and harshness of the Israeli response to the uprising has meant that the popular committees have intensified their defiance, and taken up in earnest the task of informal education.

Most Palestinian neighbourhoods invariably are cohesive communities which have students as well as teachers. University students divide their time between teaching younger pupils and keeping contact with their own teachers. Three or four children converge on a house, where a teacher ensures that they are taught the basics — the process is repeated elsewhere.

"We're using right now the same textbooks which were used in the schools, Jordanian textbooks, mostly, and some Israeli textbooks," said Abdallah. But, he added, "there is a plan of having Palestinian textbooks."

"We're not giving formal education," said Abdallah. "What we are concerned with is keeping the information fresh in the minds of the children. But for university students, of course, popular teaching is formal. We give university students their normal courses in their houses. Of course it is very difficult because we haven't facilities like labs."

At the Birzeit University, the students are now in the ninth month of a "make-up plan." "We

began with 200 graduate students, because it was vital to graduate the students — they had only a few courses to finish. We actually graduated seventy of them."

In the next stage, said Abdallah, the make-up plan took about 500 students and graduated another 150. "We moved the university from inside the campus to the outside."

But the biggest difficulties have been with the school going children. "The university students can take make-up plans, although not all of them, but for schools, the type of information you are giving is not enough and it is not formal. That means that children don't get certificates. That means that a child will go to his first class when he is eight or nine years old and be losing the right of going to school."

"Schools have other purposes, not only academic, there is a social life. The child is losing all this. That is why we will face social problems because of this. You can't just let the children stay in the streets."

In about two months the academic year will start in the occupied territories. The popular committees are preparing to make up for the impending loss of a third year without classes, for there's little chance that the uprising will end in that academic year — Academic File.



Women are Iran's barometer of social ethics and politics

This is the second of three articles about the condition of women in Iran.



Women spinners in the northern Iran have not changed their lifestyles.

On the more positive side, birth control, banned in the early days of the revolution, is now back in favour as the country's planners have belatedly woken up to what an extra two million mouths a year — one of the world's highest birth rates — means in terms of extra housing, new schools and other facilities.

Although most jobs are officially open to women, with the exceptions of presidency and senior judgeships, the mosque still encourages early marriage and motherhood, and little six-year-old girls pester their mothers to wear the veil as the ultimate symbol of being grown up.

Had the curtains been drawn, allowing late afternoon light into the dark room where Rahnavard was sitting, it would have been possible to see the tall building beyond the trees that once housed the prime minister's own detachment of the Shah's dreaded secret police, Savak.

Today the slabby block is part of the Information Ministry, the Islamic government's ears and eyes which, unlike most intelligence agencies, is theoretically accountable to the Majlis (parliament). Just how this new force works with the veritable army of komitahs, controlled by the Interior Ministry, and the Revolutionary Guards is not clear.

The degree to which Iran is a police state today depends very much on whether a Tehran lives in the wealthy north or down-at-

heel south.

For the Islamic poor, the security forces are a necessary evil to protect a precious revolution, the constant snoopers in the front line of a battle to root out "enemies of the revolution and nests of spies."

For the north Tehran, the squads of young, revolutionary zealots — frequently armed with small pistols or Uzi sub-machineguns and wearing the mandatory two or three-day stubble — are little more than a pest these days. Gone, for the moment at least, are the days when jeep-loads of Revolutionary Guards would descend on parties to make on-the-spot arrests and mete out revolutionary justice, flogging more often than not.

Without doubt, the telephone and telex lines at the big international hotels are monitored and the foreign media is watched like a hawk. Western embassies have also noticed the recent return of the ubiquitous shoe-shine boy — mostly old men posted down the road who patently do not earn a decent living cleaning shoes, but whose presence enables the regime to keep tabs on the still lengthy queues of Iranians trying to get out of the country.

Criticism is mostly tolerated — particularly day-to-day gripes about the cost of living, although one would ever dare to openly question Khomeini's revolutionary role. Within the strict con-

finer of Islam, Majlis debates can be lively, often vicious in their attacks on individual ministers. No pre-censorship exists within the press but proprietors are part of the system, each reflecting different tendencies such as the conservative bazaaris or hardline radicals. Radio and television are state-controlled and staid.

Khomeini's posthumous rise to near propheetood may, however, owe a great deal to the television cameras and radio crews at the funeral. Perched atop a mountain of scaffolding close by the golden shrine, the Iranian journalists, including those who first publicised the cassettes of a simple, holy man leading an exile's life in the Iraqi Shi'a town of Najaf, are using the latest technology to build him up into a living legend. Iran's revolution was the first to be fought with modern technology, a weapon that the new leaders are showing themselves to be just as adept at wielding.

But the revolutionary bloodshed — mass executions, round-ups and more general intimidation — are still close to the surface. A Western-educated woman, a writer and intellectual, got over her initial loathing of the revolution — founded on a belief that the struggle she had worked so hard for as a liberal had been "hijacked by the ayatollahs" — only to find her moorings cut.

"They [her foreign friends] don't understand our struggle, the terror we faced every morn-

ing, the constant struggle just to live, our initial fear at all the blood being spilled, and the silliness of our caring what the West thought," she said. "Come on, let's be honest... We have what the people want. We must face it and learn to live with it."

Women are the barometer of Iranian politics. One look at how much ankle or calf is showing, or how much hair can be seen beneath the veil and the colour of a headscarf tells a book about the regime's level of toleration.

Iranian women, are a feisty lot — rarely afraid to speak their minds, boisterous in the hazaar of queues for food, and they are rulers in the home. Potentially, they constitute a considerable political force.

The street-wise Persian from north Tehran is getting away with the equivalent of hell this year — blue jeans, sneakers and white socks topped by the rouposh (overcoat) or manteau, as middle-class matrons say. On the right girl — long legged, narrow hipped — the black or navy rouposh can be a garment of extreme elegance.

But on the average, well proportioned matron, the rouposh — with its low slung half belt, big shoulder pads and deep front

pockets occasionally complemented by a casually worn headscarf in pastel or black — is not so much elegant as just another dreary black mackintosh.

Today's rouposh exposes half the calf and, were it not for the mandatory headscarf, half the bosom as well. Such elaborate detail may seem petty, unnecessary, but the Islamic dress is a source of constant irritation to the young Iranian — hot and sweaty under the fierce summer sun, depersonalising, almost like a school uniform, and demanding to be individualised. Such exposure on the city's streets even two years ago would have meant almost certain arrest by teams of "sisters" from the morals squads who monitored levels of modesty in their white Nissan patrol cars.

Colours are slowly returning. Less than 10 days after the ayatollah was buried, olive green, steel blue and even white were spotted in north Tehran, while in the south and villages the favoured Iranian paisley — in beige and greys is slowly returning. The prime minister's wife is adamant: "Colours are Islamic, black should not be encouraged. Blue and yellow are good Islamic colours."

The Guardian

Voyager 2 approaches Neptune for finale of solar trek

By Lee Siegel
The Associated Press

ASADENA — Twelve years, nine planets and 7.1 billion kilometres after leaving Earth, Voyager 2 is approaching Neptune, a swirling, blue-green planet with a backward-moving oort, for the last stop on an extraordinary tour.

"The solar system is our neighbourhood, and we're getting to the end of the neighbourhood," said Norm Haynes, Voyager project manager at the National Aeronautics and Space Administration's Jet Propulsion Laboratory.

Voyager 2 already has detected dark spots on Neptune, which is to the eccentricity of Pluto's bit is currently the most distant planet. The spot may be a giant storm like Jupiter's great red spot. As it nears the planet, the probe will search for undiscovered moons and partial rings. And at 0400 GMT on Aug. 25, Voyager will swoop within 4,800 kilometres of Neptune's North pole cloudtops — the closest of close encounters and the first spacecraft to visit the planet. It will be 4.3 billion kilometres from Earth after travelling 7.14 billion kilometres along its curving path. The information it sends back at the speed of light will take four hours and six minutes to arrive.

Five hours after the closest encounter, Voyager will fly within 40,300 kilometres of Triton, which, unlike most moons, orbits the opposite direction of Neptune's rotation. The planet's best known moon is Nereid. Voyager 1 and 2, laden with cameras and an array of

sensors, were launched in 1977. They visited Jupiter in 1979 and Saturn in 1980 and 1981, respectively. Voyager 2 reached Uranus in 1986. Voyager 1 now is beaming 65,000 photographs of Jupiter, Saturn and their moons and rings.

Voyager 2 sent back 8,000 pictures of Uranus and its moons, and will take another 8,000 of Neptune.

At a cost Haynes pegged at \$865 million through the Neptune encounter, the voyagers "returned more new knowledge about the outer planets... than existed in all of the preceding history of astronomy," NASA says.

Neptune, discovered in 1846, is 49,500 kilometres in diameter — six times Earth's size and the fourth-largest planet after Jupiter, Saturn and Uranus. A Neptunian year lasts 165 Earth years, and a day lasts 17 to 18 Earth hours. Neptune usually is the eighth planet, but because of Pluto's highly elliptical orbit, Neptune will be the ninth and outermost until 2007.

Scientists expect Voyager to discover at least 10 small moons, deputy project scientist Ellis Miner said.

Some moons may confine or shepherd the 8- to 19-kilometre wide incomplete rings, called "ring arcs," orbiting Neptune, said physicist Ed Stone, NASA's Voyager project scientist and a vice president at California Institute of Technology.

Comets and ancient moons. Voyager also may discover dust bands and 50 to 100 partial rings in addition to the three to six arcs scientists believe they detected

from Earth, Stone speculated. The partial rings, possibly made of dust and pebbles, most likely are debris from the collision of a comet and an ancient moon, he said.

Voyager should be some 53,900 kilometres above Neptune's clouds when it crosses the ring region, so it is unlikely to be destroyed by an unseen arc, he said.

The probe also will study Neptune's weather. Scientists believe the 10,000-kilometre wide dark spot it found probably is similar to Earth's hurricanes or Jupiter's great red spot. The source of the internal heat driving Neptune's storms is a mystery; Earth's comes from decaying radioactive material in rocks.

Neptune is pale blue-green because methane in its mostly hydrogen-helium atmosphere absorbs red light. Scientists suspect that a third of the way toward the planet's centre, the atmosphere becomes a superhot slurry of hot water and rock, so Neptune — like neighbouring

Uranus — probably lacks a distinct sky-sea boundary, Stone said.

Despite an internal heat, Neptune receives 900 times less sunlight than Earth, so the temperature at the top of its atmosphere is minus 212 degrees Celsius, about the same as on Triton, Stone said.

Scientists believe Triton — 2,250-3,600 kilometres wide, roughly the size of Earth's moon — will be the most fascinating part of Voyager's flyby.

When a planet and its moons form from a spinning disk of gas and solid material, the moons should orbit in the direction the planet rotated. Triton's reverse orbit suggests it once orbited the Sun like a comet or a planet but collided with a moon to form a new backwards-moving satellite, Stone said.

Triton probably is cold and geologically inactive, with an icy mantle over a rocky core. But it once may have had a molten interior which created ridges, valleys, cliffs, canyons and volca-

noes that Voyager might photograph.

Observations from Earth indicate Triton's atmosphere contains methane and nitrogen. Sunlight likely converts methane into complex hydrocarbons, creating a transparent reddish-orange photochemical haze, Stone said. The hydrocarbons may form heavier particles, coating the surface with frozen sludge.

Could the organic chemicals have allowed life to develop on Triton?

"The temperature is very, very cold, so I think it's unlikely," he said.

Scientists believe Triton has extreme seasons because its orbit around Neptune is highly-inclined: one pole faces the Sun for 82 years and the other remains in darkness. This may mean Triton's atmosphere gets thinner and thicker as methane-nitrogen ice-caps cover one pole, then the other.

Researchers discarded the theory that Triton has liquid ni-

rogen oceans, but puddles or lakes are possible, along with fields of nitrogen ice crystals, Stone said.

Nereid, about 300 to 1,000 kilometres wide, has a very elongated elliptical orbit. California Institute of Technology Astrophysicist Peter Goldreich speculates Nereid once had a circular orbit that was disturbed by gravity from Triton or a large passing object.

If Voyager confirms that Neptune has a magnetic field, the planet also may have an aurora like Earth's, and a mysterious ultraviolet "electroglow." A magnetic field should trap a radiation belt around Neptune similar to Earth's Van Allen belts. Jupiter's radiation belts damaged some of Voyager's equipment; Haynes doubts similar problems at Neptune.

Voyager 2 has worked 12 years with only relatively minor failures, although it contains electronics equal to 10,000 television sets, he said.

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مكتبة الأمل

Argentina is bankrupt

BUENOS AIRES (AP) — State-controlled gas prices soared Monday by as much as 640 per cent, and the austral was devalued by one-half as the new government sought to curtail hyperinflation and a massive budget deficit.

"Argentina is bankrupt," Economy Minister Miguel Roig said Sunday night in a nationwide address. Policies to nurture the country to health "will be exceptional and, lamentably, very harsh."

Beginning Monday, a litre of high-octane gasoline cost 270 australs (141 U.S. cents). Sunday, motorists who lined up for blocks filled up their tanks at 38 australs a litre. The price hike amounted to 141 per cent.

Natural gas for heating and cooking will cost businesses as much as \$40 per cent more, Roig said. The rate for homeowners will be increased by 200 per cent. He did not say when that rate would take effect.

Electricity, telephones and other public services will cost at least 200 per cent more when new rates are put into effect, government pressmen announced after

Roig's speech.

Heavy fare increases for buses, subways, commuter trains and airplanes will take effect July 17, the spokesman said. The rates were not announced.

Beginning Monday, the exchange rate was 655 australs to one U.S. dollar, a rate that brings it in line with its black market value and is intended to encourage exporters to sell foreign currency to the central bank, the reserves of which are very low.

The official rate Friday was 303-1. The devaluation amounted to 53.7 per cent.

The measures are aimed at curtailing inflation that in June soared by 114.5 per cent of the gross national product.

The two are linked. The former government of President Raul Alfonsín financed the deficit — caused in large part by operating losses at state-run companies — by printing money or borrowing

abroad. Neither avenue is open to President Carlos Menem, who was elected May 14 and took office Saturday. The nation is \$4.5 billion in arrears in interest payments on the foreign debt of \$60 billion and inflation is out of control.

The 12-month cost of living increase based on June's rate amounts to a staggering 948,597 per cent. The austral, valued at 18 to one U.S. dollar in February, has lost 97 per cent of its value in five months.

Hyperinflation and devaluation touched off a recession in which real wages have fallen by at least 35 per cent this year, and unemployment has climbed to 10 per cent.

Workers would be shielded somewhat from the effects of the new measures by controls on the prices of milk, bread and other basic commodities, and by a small, one-time pay increase this month, Roig said. The pay increase, which will go to salaried workers and retirees, amounts to \$8,000 australs, or about \$12.

The Menem government also was considering doubling the

monthly minimum wage of 20,000 australs, or about \$30.

The clear danger is social unrest. Labour unions denounced price hikes in the past weeks, and hungry shantytown dwellers looted food stores again in the northern city of Rosario.

Roig criticised the Alfonsín government for leaving his successors a "poisonous inheritance."

The solution, he said, was a free market policy where the private sector would provide services now offered by the government, and the central bank would protect the value of the national currency rather than finance the deficit.

Legislation will be sent to congress to give Menem sweeping authority to privatise state companies, Roig said. State subsidies to private companies — tax breaks, reduced rates for energy, soft loans — will be scaled back, and tax laws enforced.

Hours before the plan was unveiled, Menem said, "we have to conduct major surgery without anaesthesia... if not, Argentina has no future."

Ministry of Supply warns against price manipulation, stockpiling

AMMAN (Petra) — The Ministry of Supply has no intentions to raise the prices of sugar, rice and whole powdered milk and has called on all citizens to buy their needs from such foodstuffs rather than stockpiling big quantities.

A ministry spokesman said Monday that the ministry has enough supplies of foodstuffs, sufficient for the consumption of the Kingdom for more than six months, and that large quantities of such items have recently arrived in Aqaba and will be discharged soon.

The ministry's statement was prompted by the unusual demand for buying and stockpiling big quantities of sugar, rice, vegetable ghee.

The ministry, in cooperation with the authorities concerned, is tightening control on merchants' warehouses, where large quantities of these foodstuffs are stored. The inspection process by supply ministry teams has resulted in the discovery of large quantities of such foodstuffs stored in the merchants' warehouses.

The source said such quantities will be distributed to retailers and to the Civil Consumers Corporation and the Military Consumer Corporation markets where they will be sold to citizens.

The source warned that the severest measures will be taken against those who manipulate prices or stockpile large quantities of such foodstuffs.

The source added that vegetable ghee is now available in big quantities and will be distributed to dealers.

Expatriate plans to develop granite industry in Jordan

AMMAN (R) — A Jordanian businessman based in Australia said Monday he plans to raise up to \$100 million to start a granite exporting industry in south Jordan.

"We will invest about \$8 million as a start, but it could go up to \$100 million," Hoss Majdalawi told Reuters. He declined to say how the money be raised.

He said he wanted to establish quarries in areas north of the Red Sea port of Aqaba with equip-

ment to extract up to 490 square metres of rock from each daily. A cutting and polishing plant would be set up in Aqaba.

"I want to make granite as important for Jordan as phosphates," he said, referring to the Kingdom's main export.

Majdalawi, who has a Canberra-based contracting business, said he had tested two samples of Jordanian granite and they both exceeded British and

U.S. standards.

Natural Resources Authority Director-General Kamal Jreissar told Reuters granite fields were found in southern Jordan over an area of about 5,000 square kilometres.

Majdalawi is taking part in an annual conference organised by the government for representatives of 320,000 Jordanians working abroad, partly to encourage them to invest in Jordan.

Labour woes hit Britain

LONDON (AP) — British Rail train drivers began an overtime ban and 9,400 dockworkers said they would begin an indefinite strike at midnight Monday, the start of what threatens to be the worst week of industrial unrest in Prime Minister Margaret Thatcher's 10 years in power.

More than 500,000 Town Hall staff throughout Britain planned a 48-hour strike for Tuesday and Wednesday, and unions said the national rail service and London's subway system would again grind to a halt Wednesday.

British Rail said 120 of its 500 morning rush hour trains were cancelled in its busy southern region surrounding London because of the overtime ban by the 17,500 members of the Associated Society of Locomotive engineers and firemen.

Employers fear the disruption at 40 ports could hurt exports and imports, and worsen the country's merchandise trade deficit.

In this summer's mounting labour unrest, strikes have regularly closed passport offices, idled London's red double-decker buses and blacked out programmes on the British Broadcasting Corp.

The five million London commuters who rely on trains and subways will have to find other transportation Wednesday if, as planned, London underground workers stage their 10th stoppage in 14 weeks and British Rail is shut down for the fourth time in four weeks.

International body proposes automated customs network

WASHINGTON (AP) — An international customs organisation has called for stepped-up efforts to automate customs procedures around the globe through use of electronic data systems, U.S. Customs Service Commissioner William Von Raab has said.

Von Raab said the 104-nation Customs Cooperation Council "has approved a strategy through which customs administrations around the world can work to-

ward electronic interchange."

"When it comes, goods and services will move across international borders mostly without paperwork, and with the absolute minimum of human involvement. National laws and regulations that interfere with free movement of goods and services will give way to laws designed for modern trade and information concepts," Von Raab said.

He said that "the bottom line

will be less expensive international trade. Trade will be less expensive for the business community, which means lower prices for us all."

Tom Hayes, secretary-general of the Customs Cooperation Council which has its headquarters in Brussels, told reporters that "this conference is going to be regarded as the turning point for EDI (electronic data interchange) as far as customs is concerned."

U.S. wine consumption declines

SAN FRANCISCO (AP) — Total wine consumption in the United States fell 4.9 per cent nationally last year, and the District of Columbia ranked ahead of every state in per capita wine consumption, according to a trade publication.

Total wine consumption dropped to 552.2 million gallons in 1988, down 28.7 million gallons from the previous year. Wines and Vines has reported.

Wine consumption fell 1.1 per cent the previous year. The survey used statistics compiled by various state and federal agencies and California's Wine Institute.

The report said that per capita wine consumption in the District of Columbia, where Washington is located, reached 6.2 gallons of wine in 1988, while Mississippi

residents drank the least at 17.6 ounces per person.

Despite the no. 1 ranking, the district's consumption of wine fell 3.1 per cent below its 1987 figure.

The U.S. wine market has been flat for declining since the mid-1980s. Analysts blame the trend on a "neo-prohibitionist" movement in this country that includes anti-alcohol warnings and a highly publicised police crackdown on drunken driving.

Including wine coolers, U.S. adults drank about 3.2 gallons per capita of all wine last year, down from 3.4 gallons in 1987. Per capita beer consumption in 1988 was 34.1 gallons, and distilled spirits, 2.21 gallons.

With the U.S. dollar weak against European currencies, domestic wines posted an export record in 1988 and imports de-

clined again.

Although the actual percentage was minuscule, one of the hottest statistics in the domestic wine picture was in exports. The survey noted that exports set a record with 11.9 million gallons in 1987, and far surpassed that figure last year at 16.9 million gallons or 3.5 per cent of total sales.

About 86 per cent of all wine sold in this country last year was white, blush or rose, with only 14 per cent red wines. California produced 90.5 per cent of all U.S. wine last year at 428.4 million gallons, a 9.6 per cent increase over 1987.

New York was next with 5.7 per cent of the total or 27.05 million gallons, down 15.9 per cent for the same period.

Forty-three states now have bonded wineries, but California wines accounted for 72 per cent of the U.S. market last year and over 95 per cent of all U.S.-produced table-wines — still wines under 14 per cent alcohol.

Sales in those wines rose 2.8 per cent last year to capture 82.4 per cent of the entire table wine market, while the imported table wine market share fell to 17.6 per cent, the third straight yearly decline. And wine imports were down 14.1 per cent in the first quarter of this year.

In terms of gallonage shares of all wine imports last year, Italy led the pack with 43 per cent, followed by France, 27 per cent; Spain, nine per cent; West Germany, seven per cent; Portugal, four per cent and the balance, other countries.

Europe '92 faces acute management shortage

LONDON (R) — The European Community (EC) faces an acute shortage of competent managers to take the corporate helm after 1992 when the EC becomes a single market, according to a new report.

EC plans to tear down internal barriers to facilitate trade have prompted a spate of takeovers, mergers and joint ventures but there remains a dearth of international managers, said the study by top British headhunter Saxton Bampfylde International.

"Demand for this rare breed of Euro-manager will far outstrip supply well before December 1992," it said.

The executive who can successfully turn from being a national highflyer into becoming a European league player is unlikely to be British or a woman, the survey said.

The new breed of Euro-execu-

tive is far more likely to come from Scandinavia or countries such as the Netherlands and Belgium where people are forced to learn another language and feel at ease with other cultures.

"Women specifically are seen to lack the potential, partly because of the persistent assumption that they will find travelling difficult but mainly due to senior management's reluctance to let them develop," said the report.

Managers from Britain, written off by Napoleon as a nation of shopkeepers, were too parochial, said Saxton.

The survey, conducted among senior executives in Europe, forecast intensive poaching of the right people and said the elite group who meet Saxton's criteria will command dramatic salaries but will also face relentless pres-

ures. Having parents from different countries or having a foreign wife helps to create an ideal Euro-manager making him familiar with other cultures.

Social skills and mental agility are vital and the manager would ideally have attended an international business school, worked for a multinational company or worked in financial services.

But far from leading glamorous lives, one such executive said his had been "a kind of purgatory."

European managers interviewed were unanimous about the pressures of incessant work and said they had made trade-offs in terms of their health and marriage.

The perks of travel were no longer exciting.

"What used to be an adventure is now a nightmare, with long delays and every flight jammed..."

it would be a luxury to find time to look at any museum or galleries."

Friendships and partnerships can be wrecked with isolation a big drawback. "We are management bedouins, living inside our tent, with very little social life."

The report discovered a particularly blinkered approach to recruitment in Britain where companies without a continental European base stand to lose out on business.

"Too often British companies are oblivious of the importance of appointing Euro-competent managers, who will be crucial to their commercial success after 1992," the report said.

British companies had unclear and inconsistent ideas about their personnel requirements after the unified market was set up which could bring serious recruitment errors, it said.

British businessmen came under fire for being narrow-minded about other European languages and cultures, and tactless.

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AMMAN EXCHANGE RATES.

Monday, July 10, 1989
Central Bank official rates

	Buy	Sell	French franc	Japanese yen (for 100)	Swiss franc
U.S. dollar	555.3	561.3	67.7	399.1	88.6
Pound Sterling	903.8	912.8	264.1	266.7	
Deutschemark	297.6	300.6	86.7	87.6	
Swiss franc	345.6	349.1	41.0	41.4	
			Belgian franc (for 10)	142.1	143.5

LONDON EXCHANGE RATES

LONDON (R) — Following are the buying and selling rates for leading world currencies and gold against the dollar at midday on the London foreign exchange and bullion markets Monday.

	One Sterling	One U.S. dollar	U.S. dollars	Canadian dollar	Deutschemarks	Dutch guilders	Swiss francs	Belgian francs	French francs	Italian lire	Japanese yen	Swedish crowns	Norwegian crowns	Danish crowns	U.S. dollars
	1.6315/25	1.1890/1900	1.8640/47	2.1020/30	1.6095/6105	39.01/04	6.3250/3300	1335/1356	138.80/90	6.4025/75	6.8800/50	7.2400/50	382.80/383.30		

WORLD STOCK MARKETS

Reuters

SYDNEY — Shares closed higher with sharp gains by blue chips after the Dow's rise on Friday boosted the market. The All Ordinaries index ended 9.8 up at 1,537.3.

TOKYO — Signs that a long-awaited cut in U.S. interest rates may soon emerge failed to rally the market beyond an upwards bounce at the open, leaving share prices to close mixed in light trade. The Nikkei index eased 27.95 to 33,676.02.

HONG KONG — Prices of blue chips rose sharply following a half a percentage point cut in local interest rates and Friday's rise in Wall Street. The Hang Seng jumped 63.26 to 2,439.20.

SINGAPORE — Continued buying support from institutional and individual investors pushed up prices over a broad front after brisk trading at the close. The Straits Times industrial index set another post-crash closing high of 1,345.40, up 9.71.

BOMBAY — Share prices suffered a major setback on heavy profit-taking by state-owned mutual funds. Tata Steel fell 28.75 rupees to 1,442.5 while Telco slumped 38.75 to 981.25.

FRANKFURT — Profit-taking pressured shares in the second half of a moderate session, pushing prices off new 1989 highs set just after the opening. The DAX index closed at 1,512.78, up 2.15.

ZURICH — Stocks closed little changed after most prices came off their day's highs on profit-taking. The all-share Swiss performance index fell 0.7 to 1,111.3.

PARIS — Prices closed slightly firmer after another quiet session, with many domestic investors on holiday.

LONDON — Shares were mixed to slightly firmer in afternoon business. Creeping caution before key U.K. inflation data later this week took some of the speculative energy out of the market. At 1500 GMT the FTSE 100 was up 2.4 at 2,191.5.

NEW YORK — Blue chips posted moderate gains as Chase Manhattan Bank cut its prime lending rate by half a percentage point. The Dow was up 17 at 2,505 in mid-morning.

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مكتبة الأمل

Prost win tightens screws on Senna

LE CASTELLET (R) — Alain Prost's commanding victory in Sunday's French Grand Prix and signs of a growing challenge from Ferrari, Williams and Benetton have left Ayrton Senna under pressure as he bids to retain the drivers' title.

After failing to finish in the last three races — the United States, Canadian and French Grand Prix — the Brazilian has slipped 11 points behind team-mate Prost in the championship and appears to have temporarily lost his magical winning touch.

Even in qualifying the world champion has lost his consistent grip on pole position while Prost, who will leave the team at the end of the season, has found a new lease of life.

"Things have changed for me in the last two races," said Prost after winning Sunday on his home soil. "Everything in the team seems better and I am more comfortable."

"The engines are better for me and have been since Phoenix and I am happier with them. I complained about their performance for me as you know, but Honda have improved that aspect for me."

"I've had two consecutive pole positions which is great for me in any way and I am in a good position in the championship now — although it was much the same last year, so I am not saying any more than that."

"I am glad I have announced my decision about McLaren and feel better about it. But I proved I still have all my motivation to

drive for them. I just hope it is dry and sunny when we get to Silverstone next weekend."

The British Grand Prix on July 16 promises a battle-royal between the McLaren drivers as Prost intensifies his pursuit of a third world title at Senna's expense.

Senna, however, has a good record at Silverstone where he drove superbly in the wet last year to win.

With Briton Nigel Mansell certain to challenge powerfully in the improved and more reliable Ferrari which carried him into second place Sunday, Prost will be in for a tough race.

Mansell, who started from the pit lane at the re-start of the crash-marred race, was full of praise for the Ferrari afterwards although he criticised the team's failure to set up the spare car properly for him.

"The gearbox and the engine were both very good right through the race and it all looks very promising for the British Grand Prix," he said.

Similar optimism was forthcoming from both Williams, powered by a revised version of the Renault V-10 engine, and Benetton, who introduced their new car with a new Ford V-8 unit in France.

Italian Riccardo Patrese's fourth successive rostrum finish showed Williams have the necessary reliability and competitor Alessandro Nannini's strong challenge before retirement proved Benetton could also prove a threat.

Brazil beat weakened Paraguay to qualify

RIO DE JANEIRO (R) — Brazil took advantage of a debilitated Paraguayan side to score a 2-0 (0-0) victory Sunday that qualified them for the final round of the South American soccer championship.

Flamengo striker Bebeto scored both goals, a 47th-minute drive that went in at the base of the post and a close-range side-footer from a centre by Mazinho eight minutes from time.

The victory put Brazil level with Paraguay on six points, but the Paraguayans, who had already secured a place in the final round, finished top of group one on goal difference.

Paraguay, who fielded a majority of the reserves for the match in Recife, held Brazil at bay during the first half, although they seldom troubled goalkeeper Taffarel.

But Brazil's superior skills saw them home and put paid to any hopes Colombia may have had of a Paraguayan victory.

Colombia, who began the tournament as favourites to go through with Brazil from group one, finished with four points after a 1-1 draw with Peru in Sunday's first match.

Arnoldo Iguaran scored for Colombia after 32 minutes and Jorge Hiran equalised 10 minutes later.

World champions Argentina have already qualified from group two in Colombia, while holders Uruguay's fate hinges Monday's clash between Ecuador and Chile.

A near capacity crowd of 60,000 turned out to cheer on Brazil at Recife's Arruda stadium in marked contrast to poor support for the home side in their earlier matches in Salvador.

Group one action ended with 27 goals in 10 matches and Venezuelan Carlos Maldonado, who has already gone home, leading the scorers with four. Bebeto and Iguaran have three.

Baseball lines up for all-star clash

Mets wipe punch-up shame with Reds win

NEW YORK (AP) — One day after the Cincinnati and New York Yankees brawled on the field, the Mets beat the Reds on the game of baseball as the home-town crowd chanted encouragement.

Met Juan Samuel hit a two-run homer off Cincinnati reliever Rob Dibble in a three-run seventh-inning rally as the New York Mets beat the Reds 6-3 Sunday.

Also worthy of note, the third of four players ejected Saturday after a bench-clearing brawl, Reds reliever Norm Charlton, took the loss. The only combatant who didn't figure in the scenario was New York's Tim Lincecum, who missed the game with a back bruised when he hit him with a pitch that precipitated Saturday's fisticuffs.

"The one thing I didn't want to do was strike out," Samuel said. "He's the kind of pitcher who would never let me forget it if I did. The pitch was a slider and I went with it all the way."

What was Samuel thinking as he rounded the bases?

"I tried not to stare at him too long," he said. "It had a good

effect on the team and that's what concerned me."

Mark Langston pitched a five-hitter for eight innings and had two hits and two runs to lead Montreal. But his matchup with Astrus ace Mike Scott was marked by an injury to the Houston pitcher.

Scott, 14-5, left the game in the third with a strained left hamstring. He gave up two runs on five hits, striking out four and walking one. A decision on his status for the all-star game Tuesday was expected later Monday.

Cardinals 6, Giants 4

Jose Oquendo and Terry Pendleton continued their torrid hitting and Joe Magrane won his fourth straight game.

Oquendo, 19-for-35 in his last 10 games, had an RBI single in the Cardinals' two-run second, a triple in the fifth and an RBI groundout in a four-run sixth.

Cubs 11, Dodgers 4

Chicago Cubs Damon Berryhill drove in four runs with a two-run homer and a two-run single at Wrigley field.

Berryhill hit his second homer of the season in the second inning after Vance Law singled with two outs, and he singled with the

bases loaded in the third off Fernando Valenzuela, 4-8.

Padres 5, Pirates 3

San Diego Padres Roh Nelson hit a two-run homer and Mark Grant pitched 6, 2-3 innings of shutout relief.

With the Padres trailing 3-2 in the fourth, Nelson hit a 3-0 pitch from Pittsburgh Pirates Randy Kramer, 3-5, for his third home run.

Phillies 4, Braves 3

Philadelphia Phillies reliever Jeff Parrett, 5-3, struck out six batters in three innings, including Atlanta Braves Jeff Treadway and pinch-hitter Jody Davis to strand the tying run at third base in the 13th inning at Atlanta stadium.

Von Hayes walked against Joe Boever, 2-3, and later scored the winning run on Dwayne Murphy's grounder.

American League

Two days before the annual all-star game between the National and American leagues' best players, the Texas Rangers and Oakland (California) Athletics staged an all-star hoofer show.

Oakland committed two errors Sunday, while the Rangers managed four errors, two passed balls and a wild pitch in the first three

innings. Oakland's only hit in that span was a wind-blown blooper by Mark McGwire that fell in for an RBI single, helping the Athletics win 7-1.

Angels 9, Twins 3

The California Angels reached the mid-season all-star break with a 52-53 record, the best in either of the major leagues, by beating Minnesota.

Brian Downing led a 15-hit attack with a two-run homer and sacrifice fly, while Johnny Ray added a two-run single for the Angels, who have won three straight games and 13 of 16.

Mariners 8, Indians 0

Seattle Mariners' Scott Bankhead, who last lost on May 17, lowered his earned-run average to 0.92 in his last eight starts as he blanked Cleveland on six hits for his sixth straight victory.

Bankhead, 8-4, helped the Mariners win for the 10th time in 13 games, including seven of the last eight in the Kingdom.

Royals 5, White Sox 4

The Kansas City Royals handed Chicago its sixth consecutive loss when Willie Wilson snapped a 4-4 tie with an RBI single into shallow left field in the ninth inning.

George Brett doubled off Sean Hillegas, 4-9, with one out and Wilson connected for the game-winning after Bo Jackson was walked intentionally.

Brewers 7, Orioles 2

Roh Deer, Glenn Braggs and Paul Molitor had three hits apiece, leading a 14-hit Milwaukee Brewers attack against Baltimore.

All three of the hits by Deer — who shares the AL lead with 21 homers — were RBI singles, including one in fifth when the Brewers scored three runs to break a 1-1 tie.

Red Sox 10, Yankees 5

The Boston Red Sox, hit more than one homer in a game at Fenway park for the first time since May 27 as Nick Esasky, Dwight Evans and Luis Rivera connected against New York to offset two homers by the Yankees' Jesse Barfield.

Esasky hit a two-run homer, his 13th, off New York starter Don Schulze, 1-1, in the fourth before Evans greeted reliever Dale Mohoric with his 11th homer in the fifth.

Blue Jays 2, Tigers 0

Two Toronto pitchers held Detroit to two hits and Junior Felix homered as the Blue Jays swept their first series ever at Tiger Stadium.

Dave Stieb pitched hitless ball for 5 2-3 innings before Lou Whitaker lined a single past first baseman Fred McGriff to break up the no-hit bid. The only other hit off Stieb, 8-5, in seven innings was a single by Fred Lynn in the seventh.

GOREN BRIDGE

BY CHARLES GOREN
AND OMAR SHARIF
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Both vulnerable. North deals.

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♥ A 9 8 4
♦ Q 7 5
♣ 6 4 3

SOUTH
♠ Q 9 6 5 4
♥ K
♦ A 9 8 3
♣ Q 8 2

The bidding:
North East South West
1♥ Pass 1♠ Pass
2♠ Pass 2NT Pass
3NT Pass Pass

Opening lead: Eight of ♠
Our father was a wise man. We remember him telling us: "Listen to the words of your elders, for they have learned from experience. Then be sure that you don't make the same mistakes they did!"

At both tables in a team game, North-South reached a contract of three no trumps. The auctions were identical and normal.

In light of South's initial re-

sponse, a spade lead was ruled out, and neither West felt like leading from jack-third in a minor suit; so the opening lead at both tables was a top-of-nothing heart. Both Easts rose with the ace and found the excellent defense of switching to the jack of spades.

At one table, declarer remembered being taught: "Cover an honor with an honor." He put up the queen of spades. West won the king and returned a low spade to his partner's ten. A spade continuation through declarer's nine allowed West to score the ace-eight, and the defenders had four spades and the ace of hearts in the bank before declarer had blinked an eye.

At the other table, declarer worked out that, if he ducked the jack of spades, he was in jeopardy only if East had made a spectacular shift to the jack from J x x. All other spade distributions could be defused. He therefore played low, and no matter how the defense continued the contract was as secure as Fort Knox. Had East continued with a low spade, declarer intended inserting the nine. When, in fact, East continued with the ten, declarer covered with the queen and West could do him no harm.

FORECAST FOR TUESDAY, JULY 11, 1989

YOUR DAILY HOROSCOPE

by Thomas Plerson, Astrologer, Carroll Righter Institute

GENERAL TENDENCIES: It is possible to get trapped into negative thoughts and make hasty decisions. Important news or decisions can affect you, the needy, and those on devotional paths.

ARIES (Mar. 21 to Apr. 19) Open disputes can temporarily get out of hand. A brief cool-down period will open the door to a charming afternoon and evening.

TAURUS (Apr. 20 to May 20) Progress continues, although rewards are not immediately apparent. A declaration of love will help to handle a mate's negativity.

GEMINI (May 21 to June 21) People make your world go around. You can find new contacts and pleasure as you go home. Someone gives you sound financial advice.

MOON CHILDREN (June 22 to July 21) You are running on high energy today, but too much too fast may work against you. Effort opens the doors to opportunity if directed.

LEO (Jul. 22 to Aug. 21) A clash of wills is a result of a battle over authority. Undergo an emotional housecleaning and concentrate on the special moments you enjoy.

VIRGO (Aug. 22 to Sept. 22) Be realistic about your capacities, and don't be afraid to ask for help. Pace yourself when the going gets tough. Laughter is good for you.

LIBRA (Sept. 23 to Oct. 22) Buy a luxurious gift for that special someone. Brighten your outlook. Teach your sense of beauty to siblings.

SCORPIO (Oct. 23 to Nov. 21) It may be necessary to "be there" for someone who needs you. Display genuine caring and concern. Start saving for future travel.

SAGITTARIUS (Nov. 22 to Dec. 21) A domestic issue has you stirred up and can affect your demeanor. Keep variety in your life. Learn to ignore untimely gossip.

CAPRICORN (Dec. 22 to Jan. 20) Balancing the checkbook now will bring out the true monthly financial picture. It is not a pretty picture when items need replacing.

AQUARIUS (Jan. 21 to Feb. 19) Feeling good about yourself is a refreshing change of pace. You have learned that help comes when you need it.

PISCES (Feb. 20 to Mar. 20) You have control over your future. The serious side of your nature is working to bring you organization and accomplishment.

THE Daily Crossword by Peter Swift

ACROSS

- Clamping device
- "Honey"
- Orient
- Dull
- Consider
- Play action
- Desert slight
- Unwanted prominence
- Locomotive
- Lie an ear
- Tilt
- Unusual word
- ending
- "Norma"
- Footnote word
- Pay a debt
- Spirit
- module
- Enfold
- Esquay
- Drove
- Yield
- Falle
- financially
- Rise up
- Sty
- Cleans a floor
- Food store
- "Misérable"
- Questioning
- Minuscule
- Intelligence
- Came into view
- Adjusts
- Miles, not men
- Patrician
- Bill, letters
- Count of jazz
- A Turner
- Attention-getter
- Old whoppers
- Young falcon
- 37 Judges' garb
- 40 Fruit quail
- 42 Fried
- 45 Asparagus
- 56 Fur
- 57 Blush green
- 61 An Amazon
- 63 Alabaster
- 64 Black and Red
- 65 Stamping device

DOWN

- Flower holder
- Pewee
- Quave
- Canoe
- Supplement
- Panel name
- 7 — ex machine
- 10 Apices
- 11 Recipe word
- 12 Minuscule
- 16 Openings
- 19 Mr. Newman
- 21 Salsa
- 24 Monterey man
- 26 Coral ridges
- 27 Lat
- 29 Joined
- 31 Harbor sight
- 32 Rare diamond
- 33 Embankment
- 34 Anthony and Barbara
- 37 Judges' garb
- 40 Fruit quail
- 42 Fried
- 45 Asparagus
- 56 Fur
- 57 Blush green
- 61 An Amazon
- 63 Alabaster
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- 65 Stamping device

Yesterday's Puzzle Solved:

DOWN

- 10 Apices
- 11 Recipe word
- 12 Minuscule
- 16 Openings
- 19 Mr. Newman
- 21 Salsa
- 24 Monterey man
- 26 Coral ridges
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THE BETTER HALF.

By Harris



"If cheese is bad for your heart, how come mice can run so fast?"

JUMBLE.

Unscramble these four Jumbles, one letter to each square, to form four ordinary words.

VABOE
ARBIN
LEWOLF
FLUTAR



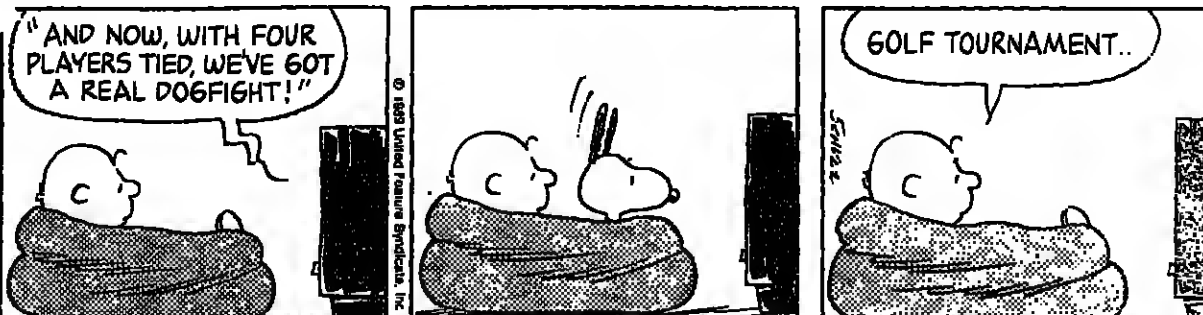
WHEN YOU BUY A HERD OF BISON, YOU CAN EXPECT TO RECEIVE THIS.

Now arrange the circled letters to form the surprise answer, as suggested by the above cartoon.

Answer: A (Answer tomorrow)

Saturday's Jumbles: FIFTY GORGE ENDURE ARCTIC Answer: Raincoats are sold for people who want to do this — "RE-TIRE"

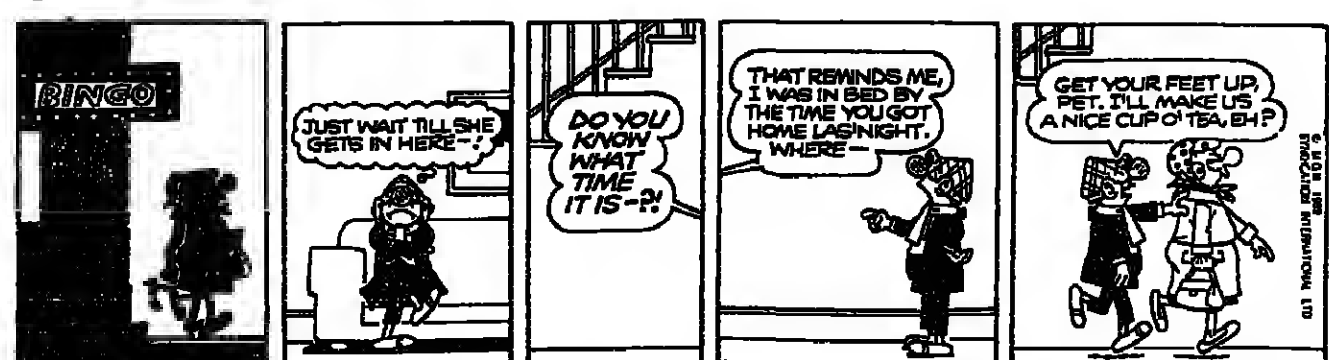
Peanuts



B.C. BY JOHNNY HART



Andy Capp



الاحد

Bush offers \$100m aid package to Poland

WASHINGTON (Agencies) — U.S. President George Bush today announced a \$100-million aid package for Poland and promised to press for new loans and debt relief.

In the first address by an American president to this country's parliament, Bush said Poland's steps toward democratic freedoms "show the way forward for new and freer Europe."

"This generation's calling is to redress the promise of a free Polish republic," he said. "Poland has not been lost so long as the Polish spirit lives."

The speech was the dramatic high point of Bush's first full day here. Earlier, he was cheered by flag-waving crowds as he toured Polish war-torn and mined areas. He also met with Polish leader Wojciech Jaruzelski, during which he described his economic proposals.

Secretary of State James Baker and Polish Foreign Minister Tadeusz Jablonski signed two agreements today: one for the immediate release of \$10 million in overdue debt to U.S. government agencies.

Under the agreement, payments that were due in 1985 and over a three-year period beginning in 1986 will be deferred for five years.

The bulk of the money is owed to the Commodity Credit Corporation and the U.S. Export-Import Bank — government agencies that promote exports by providing favourable credit terms.

In his speech, Bush called on

Memorial to Poles shipped from the Warsaw ghetto to their death in Nazi camps during World War II.

Jaruzelski's 1981 declaration of martial law and suppression of the Solidarity free trade union led to a major rift in U.S.-Polish relations.

But the Polish leader, in cooperation with a revived Solidarity, is now a key force in a political reform movement that has resulted in the country's first free election in over 40 years.

Bush praised Jaruzelski Sunday for his "wisdom and courage" in supporting an election process that resulted in a humiliating defeat for the Communist Party.

The Solidarity opposition candidates won 260 of the 261 parliamentary seats they contested in last month's balloting.

Bush is in Poland for the first stop in a 10-day tour of Europe that takes him to Hungary, another East bloc country in the midst of political and economic liberalisation, and the July 14-16 economic summit of the industrial democracies in Paris.

He is also due to make a one-day stop in the Netherlands before returning to Washington July 18.

White House Chief of Staff John Sununu, in an interview on the U.S. television network NBC, said Bush's package for Poland was intended to provide job training and funds to promote the country's private sector. He said it could be considered destabilising in Eastern Europe "if all the United States did was come in here and thrust a huge amount of money on the table."

About 2,000 poles turned out for Bush's arrival at the Tomb of the Unknown Soldier. The President, dressed in a military uniform, played the U.S. national anthem, belted out a few verses of "America the Beautiful," waved American flags and chanted "Long live the President."

The president also laid a wreath at the Umschlagnplatz



Work being completed on a Warsaw monument to George Washington, which was dedicated Monday by visiting President George Bush

India sceptical of early Sri Lanka solution

NEW DELHI (Agencies) — A solution to a bitter row over when Indian troops should leave Sri Lanka remains uncertain despite the optimism of a Sri Lankan cabinet minister, Indian officials said Monday.

Sri Lankan Minister Saminamoorthy Thondaman told a news conference in New Delhi Sunday he was hopeful there would be a breakthrough soon in the row over when 45,000 Indian troops should leave the island.

He suggested an accord could be worked out on a timetable for an Indian withdrawal.

But the Indian officials noted Thondaman was from a different party to Sri Lankan President Ranasinghe Premadasa and said they doubted his influence.

"The ball is in Premadasa's court," said one senior official. "Whether Thondaman has the confidence of Premadasa we don't know, but we doubt it."

Premadasa has demanded the Indian peacekeeping force leave Sri Lanka by the end of this month, the second anniversary of the accord that took them to the Indian Ocean island to end a rebellion by Tamil separatists.

The officials said there had been no change in the Indian position that the troops could not leave until Tamil-dominated areas had been given the autonomy and control over law and order the accord promised them.

India fears that the Liberation Tigers of Tamil Eelam, now holding peace talks with Premadasa's government, will take on other Tamil groups once the troops leave, sending a flood of refugees into Tamil areas of southern India.

Indian Prime Minister Rajiv Gandhi could write off the south in general elections due by the end of the year if that happened, the officials said.

The officials said Delhi was prepared to resume talks that had come close to an agreement that would take the troops home by the end of the year.

"There is no reluctance here on that," said one. "But there has to be an expression of willingness (from Sri Lanka) to consult."

The Indian government has also expressed its displeasure with the Sri Lankan president for releasing a series of letters that accused India of interfering in the internal affairs of the island.

Premadasa Friday made public his correspondence to Gandhi on the withdrawal of the Indian troops from Sri Lanka.

The full text of the letters and telex messages sent during June were published by several major Indian newspapers.

"Making letters public is not our normal way of conducting diplomacy. We have nothing more to say on the subject," Foreign Ministry spokesman Aftab Seth told reporters.

One of the letters said: "Any interpretation of the agreement which seeks to provide a mandatory role for the government of India or its armed forces within Sri Lanka otherwise than at the express request of the government of Sri Lanka would constitute a serious interference in the internal affairs of a friendly sovereign country and a gross violation of the norms of international law."

During his election campaign last December, Premadasa promised that he would ask for a speedy troops withdrawal.

Serbian festival turns into protest

KINJA, Yugoslavia (AP) — A Serbian festival in Croatia Sunday turned into a protest by tens of thousands of Serbs over ethnic discrimination, stirring tensions between Yugoslav republics and nations.

The Serbs streamed into Kinja, north of an Adriatic port of Split, by an estimated 100,000, to celebrate the 600th anniversary of the founding of the city.

They waved flags and banners with political slogans and pictures of Slobodan Milosevic, the popular president of Yugoslavia's biggest republic, Serbia.

"We want justice in Croatia" and "Sloba (Milosevic) come, we are waiting for you," said some banners.

Serbs number about 10 million in Yugoslavia as a whole, forming its largest single ethnic group, but they form only a 600,000 minority in Croatia's 4.6 million population.

The greatest concentration of Serbs in Croatia is in the rocky hinterland around Kinja, north of Split.

Protesters said Serbs were subjected to discrimination and cultural assimilation in Croatia, Serbia's main rival in the power struggle among the country's many ethnic groups.

The Croatian parliament has fuelled Serb anger by insisting the language in this republic be called Croatian and not Serbo-Croatian, as it is called elsewhere in the Yugoslav federation.

"It is a step closer towards our cultural assimilation and obliteration as a people in Croatia," said Milan Zaric from Kinja. He said the Serbian Cyrillic alphabet was suppressed in Croatia in favour of the Latin script.

Sunday's festivities centred on religious services in a 14th century Serbian Orthodox Church.

Serbian intellectuals in Kinja set up Croatia's first Serbian cultural society and said their goal was to "stop the strong trends of political and cultural assimilation of Serbs."

The festival was officially Croatia's contribution to 600th anniversary celebrations of a Serb-led battle against the Turks.

Overriding protests by PRI state leaders, the party's national chairman Luis Donaldo Colosio publicly admitted that PRI candidate Margarita Ortega, 38, had lost.

During its 60 years of existence, the PRI had never conceded a race for president, governor or the senate. Last year National Action and the Democratic Revolutionary Party carried Michoacan and Mexico City and won senate seats.

In official returns Sunday, the PRI swept elections for a 27-seat legislature in Campeche and a 21-seat state assembly in Zacatecas, two of its strongholds.

It also swept the elections in Chihuahua, where National Action had often made a vigorous showing in the past.

Except for Baja California where it scored 50 per cent, the turnout of registered voters in the four other states was very low, indicating apathy and probably weariness with PRI promises of clean elections.

In Chihuahua, where less than 20 per cent of eligible voters cast ballots, the electoral commission said the PRI won all 67 races for mayor and lost to National Action only one of the 18 races for the state legislature.

The legislature's other 10 seats are being distributed among minority parties in proportion to the votes they polled.

But the electoral boards in both Baja California and Michoacan were very slow in releasing returns Sunday night, while protests of irregularities kept piling up.

In an unprecedented about-face, Salinas' party recently admitted its worst defeat ever by conceding victory to Ernesto Ruffo, 37, of the conservative National Action Party as gov-



Nelson Mandela

JOHANNESBURG (R) — South Africa told the world Monday not to be too enthusiastic about prospects for the release of Nelson Mandela despite a secret meeting between the jailed nationalist and President P.W. Botha.

In guarded remarks, Information Minister Stoffel van der Merwe characterised the unprecedented Botha-Mandela meeting last Wednesday as a step in the right direction and said he was "carefully optimistic."

Van der Merwe said the reaction of foreign governments to the 45-minute meeting, in which the two arch-rivals chatted over tea in Botha's official residence in Cape Town, was positive.

"I just hope that they are not becoming overly enthusiastic all at once," van der Merwe said on state-run radio.

He indicated that Pretoria's reluctance to free the world's best-known political prisoner stemmed from fears of an outbreak of unrest among South Africa blacks, who have continued to revere Mandela throughout his more than 26 years in jail.

"He is an old man," van der Merwe said. "On humanitarian grounds one would like to see him go out of jail."

"But one cannot do that at any cost. For instance one cannot do that if that would mean renewed unrest and the death of many people," he added.

Van der Merwe based his cautious optimism about Mandela's possible release on a statement issued after the meeting saying Botha and Mandela both stressed the need for peaceful development in South Africa.

Previously, as a condition for freeing Mandela, Pretoria has sought that he renounce the violent tactics of the guerrilla organisation he still leads, the African National Congress.

This condition has not been dropped, but government ministers have said in recent weeks that there has been a change of attitude, with emphasis on a commitment to peace rather than a rejection of violence.

Referring to the significance of the phrasing following the Botha-Mandela meeting, liberal opposition Parliamentarian Wynand Malan said the commitment to peace neatly skirted the pre-conditions set by both sides.

Van der Merwe said the meeting was of symbolic importance and several commentators agreed.

Ken Owen, editor of the moderate Business Day newspaper, wrote Monday: "The symbolism of leaving a prison to go to the seat of government, echoing the experience of (Kenya's) Jomo Kenyatta and (Zimbabwe's) Robert Mugabe... must create its own momentum."

The Mandela-Botha meeting, which the government evidently tried to conceal before a local newspaper got wind of it, caught almost everybody off guard, including Mandela's own family and the black community.

The meeting does not constitute any dramatic event in the history of the country, as the government would like the rest of the world to think," said Frank Chikane, general secretary of the South African Council of Churches.

The timing of Botha's encounter with Mandela puzzled some analysts because it came two months before an election in which the ruling National Party faces strong pressure from the far right Conservative Party, which opposes releasing jailed black nationalists.

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Plan for opposition to delay vote

MEXICO CITY (AP) — Opposition party members threatened to block roads and government buildings Monday if the ruling Institutional Revolutionary Party (PRI) holds them of the Michoacan state legislative elections they claim to have won.

"The government is obliging us to take action by not respecting the popular will," federal Congressman Raul Reyes of the leftist Democratic Revolutionary Party said.

"I don't know what it is getting into by whisking away our triumph," Reyes told reporters Sunday night, as local election boards in Michoacan and in Baja California recounted ballots from July 2 elections.

Reyes said that official results released by the state electoral commission for five of the 18 contested districts were fraudulent. That count gave the PRI victories by as much as 50.

Reyes announced that members of his party planned to block roads and highways Monday and stage sit-ins at state government offices if the trend of election fraud continues.

The elections in five states were a test of President Carlos Salinas de Gortari's promise to do away with Mexico's traditional fraudulent balloting system after his own election in July 1988 was disputed by candidates of large parties.

In an unprecedented about-face, Salinas' party recently admitted its worst defeat ever by conceding victory to Ernesto Ruffo, 37, of the conservative National Action Party as gov-

Soviets fault naval chiefs over sub mishap

MOSCOW (R) — Three Soviet rescue captains have blasted the naval command over the sinking of a nuclear submarine and urged it to lift a ban on making international SOS distress calls.

Writing in the weekly news magazine Ogonoyok, the three said standing orders prohibiting the SOS call, poor decisions by the command and bad design of Soviet submarines had all contributed to the deaths of 42 seamen in the sinking last April.

The Mike class attack submarine sank in the Norwegian sea around 180 kilometres southwest of Bear Island about six hours after an explosion and fire on board.

A Soviet rescue ship only arrived seven hours after the blast and after some sailors had been in the water at least an hour, the magazine said.

Captain G. Melkov, a former submarine commander, blamed the deaths on faulty evaluation of the emergency back at the fleet's northern headquarters and the "shameful" state of emergency procedures.

Worst of all, said Melkov, was the refusal to permit the submarine's commander to send out an SOS call that could have alerted Norwegian rescue forces.

"Was it the secrecy of the submarine and its activities? Or perhaps fear of capture by NATO (North Atlantic Treaty Organisation) rescue ship? Or the possibility of spilling of military secrets to the rescuers? But to

even think about that is blasphemous," he said.

Melkov said proper procedures could have meant the rescue of virtually all 69 sailors on board.

In a separate article in the same issue, reserve Captains A. Gorbachev and I. Kolton denounced careerism in the navy at the expense of quality workmanship and proper design.

"The time has come to consider whether ships are built not for the defence of the motherland but so that several dozen people from science and industry will finally win 'heroes of socialist labour' and other medals."

The authors also dismissed proposals that the navy should mount an expensive effort to raise the submarine, which Western experts have said was an experimental design. It sank in around 1,500 metres of water.

"Better to spend money on ensuring ships do not catch on fire and sink during peacetime," they said.

On June 26 an accident aboard a Soviet nuclear-powered Echo-II submarine off Norway crippled its reactor and sent the vessel limping home on its auxiliary engines.

According to Gorbachev and Kolton, all of 47 submarine commanders polled said the ban on SOS must be lifted.

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Baiting more than line can chew

JAMESTOWN, Ohio (AP) — A fisherman cast his line for a catch he could sink his teeth into. Instead, he reeled in a fish that could sink his teeth into him.

The 1.4-kilogram piranha, that Greg Dell'aria caught at a stone quarry near this southwest Ohio town is not native to North America. "He's got teeth as big as your bottom ones," the 32-year-old fisherman said. Dell'aria said he and some friends were fishing for bass June 26 when caught the piranha in about one metre of water. Dell'aria put the piranha in a tank at a friend's bait shop to keep it alive.

The friend's wife had a baby the next day, so the bait shop was closed for three days. When Dell'aria's wife finally picked up the fish four days later, she was told that "it ate all of his goldfish."

"I never have gotten a phone call from any type of celebrity," Osborne said. "I was really excited. It kind of peaked me up a little bit." Doochan, who portrays Montgomery Scott in the "Star Trek" television series and movies, called Osborne from Los Angeles. Doochan learned of the shooting through newspaper articles sent to him by a friend of Osborne's.

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CLEANER

Cleaner toilets to lure tourists

KUALA LUMPUR, Malaysia (AP) — With "visit Malaysia year 1990" six months away, the Ministry of Culture and Tourism is going all out in its campaign to keep public toilets clean. The campaign is in response to numerous complaints from foreign tourists that Malaysia's public toilets are not clean or properly maintained. To show how serious the government is about clean toilets, Minister of Culture and Tourism Subbaruddin Chik, accompanied by members of the press, made a surprise check on public toilets. A picture in a local paper Sunday showed him peering into a toilet bowl. The ministry also opened a "toilet operations room" June 30 so the public can call in complaints. In the first week, it received 30 complaints. The New Straits Times in an editorial July 2 said: "Anyone who has ever had to hold his breath in a public toilet will agree that, unbelievable as it may seem, there is a pressing need to educate Malaysians on how to use toilets and how to keep them clean." The campaign took a new turn when a ten-member team from the city hall health department, led by its head Zainol Arriffin Pawanchee, inspected toilets and kitchens in four hotels in the capital Saturday. Zainol told a newspaper that many of the public toilets, especially in shopping complexes, were dirty and lacked amenities like hand dryers, towels and toilet paper. In most complexes a small charge is made. In the state of Sarawak on Borneo Island, authorities have innovated a star rating system for toilets. The cleanest get a five-star rating.

Patient gets intergalactic call

OWENSBORO, Kentucky (AP) — "Star Trek" star James Doohan started a hospital patient when he telephoned to place an intergalactic get-well call. Sheriff's deputy David Osborne, who is recovering from four gun-shot wounds he suffered last month while serving an order, thought someone was pulling a prank when Doohan called. He said the phone hospital operator asked, "Can you take an intergalactic call and talk to Mr. Scott?"

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